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ARAB TIMES

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 4, 1989 JAMADI AL THANI 28, 1409 AH

WEST END WATCH



something
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22 PAGES 150 FILS

26 killed in Burmese plane crash

RANGOON, Feb 3. (AP): A domestic airliner taking off from Rangoon airport today crashed after hitting a tree, killing 26 people and injuring three others on board, the state radio said.

Four other people also were injured when the Burma Airways Fokker Friendship 27 crashed near housing for families of Air Force personnel, Radio Rangoon said.

The radio said engine failure caused the crash, Burma's fourth since mid-1987, but said authorities were investigating.

The turboprop failed to gain enough altitude and hit a 15-foot (three metre) tree shortly after take-off for Kengtung, 611 kilometres (380 miles) northeast of Rangoon, the radio reported.

Survivors

The plane then swerved to the left and ploughed through trees and electric lines in front of a noncommissioned officers mess at the 502nd Air Force camp, adjacent to the airport.

The aircraft carried 25 passengers and four crew members — a pilot, co-pilot and two stewards. The report did not identify the three survivors.

It described victims on the ground as members of the family of Lance Corporal Kan Myint. The four were being treated at the Mingaladon military hospital.

All on board were presumed to be Burmese nationals since Kenya is normally off limits to foreigners due to security problems in the area.

INSIDE

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آج کے ارادہ مختفات میں
پاکستان نے اپنی تیبیات
کے مختار سے انکار کر دیا
بخارت خاموش تماشائی
ٹیکسٹ بے کار راجوں گارڈی
شیدی فریاری سے کابل
از پورٹ بنیاد گئی
عمری کو موت کیلئے افغان
شوری کا جلاں جلو گا
عالیٰ لک پاکستان کو قرض
دے گا
اعراخانی تی یا
جماعت پیش گئے
آسٹریلیا نے آخری شہر
پر گرفت مختبر کرنی
آٹھوں آٹھیں ترمیم اور
افغانستان پر خصوصی تصریح

WEATHER

FAIR weather with light to moderate north-westerly wind and some clouds will appear.
State of sea: slight to moderate.
High water: 12.00 pm, 9.00 pm
Low water: 5.00 am, 4.00 pm
Sunrise: 5.36 am
Sunset: 5.28 pm
Maximum temperatures recorded:
Kuwait: 14°C 27°F
Al-Batin: 13°C 56°F
Falkirk: 12°C 54°F
Minimum temperatures recorded:
Kuwait: 2°C 34°F
Ahmadi: 5°C 41°F
Falkirk: 8°C 43°F
Maximum temperature expected:
Kuwait: 15°C 59°F
Ahmadi: 14°C 57°F
Al-Batin: 13°C 55°F
Maximum humidity recorded:
Kuwait: 50 per cent
Ahmadi: 54 per cent
Falkirk: 56 per cent

Bush seeks congressional approval

US may sell 200 tanks to Kuwait

WASHINGTON, Feb 3. (AP): President George Bush has sought congressional approval for the sale of 200 front-line Abrams tanks to Kuwait and 315 to Saudi Arabia while providing a third Arab country, the UAE, with 40 F-18 fighter jets, informed sources said.

Egypt, meanwhile, would get 150 Hawk missiles and Israel 200 shoulder-fired Stingers, while Jordan would not receive any American weapons this year, said the sources yesterday, who spoke on condition of anonymity.

The potential Arab purchases could touch off another row with Israel's supporters in Congress,

who were exceptionally successful during the Jimmy Carter and Ronald Reagan administrations in blocking US sales that were considered threatening to the Jewish state.

Resistance

But the skillful management of James Baker, the then White House chief of staff and now secretary of state, and other Reagan administration operatives overcame stubborn resistance to the sale of AWACS radar planes to Saudi Arabia and the pivotal purchase squeaked through the Senate, 32 to 3.

Recently, US and Egyptian officials completed arrangements for coproduction in Egypt with the aim of providing

tanks produced by Britain and West Germany, and the French Mirage 4000, as well as US-built F-16s and F-18s.

The weapons list sent to Congress last Thursday is classified. Congressman Lee Hamilton, chairman of the House Foreign Affairs Sub-committee that deals with the Middle East, is understood to have cautioned other Congress members and staff aides not to leak any of the items.

Missiles

Meanwhile, the White House, in a cover letter, informed Congress the Saudis were in the process of deciding whether to request US or European fighter planes to replace their F-5s in the next decade, the sources said.

In addition to the Arab sales, Pakistan also is seeking the Abrams tank, the Washington Times reported yesterday.

15 die as train derails in Bangladesh

CHITTAGONG, Feb 3. (Agencies): Mechanical problems may have caused the derailment that killed at least 15 people on a crowded passenger train, officials said today.

Three cars of the 10-car, Dhaka-bound express train ran off the tracks at Kumira, 23 kilometres (14 miles) north of this port city yesterday.

The official death toll rose to 15 today after two people died of their injuries in a Chittagong hospital. About 70 people were injured in the derailment, official reports say.

But the independent newspaper Inquilab said at least 25 people were killed and more than 100 injured.

"Some bodies were reportedly removed from the scene either by their relatives or rescuers and remained unaccounted for in the official toll," the Bengali-language newspaper said.

The government news agency Bangladesh Sangbad Sangstha said the train was carrying at least 2,100 passengers, three times its authorized capacity. As often happens in Bangladesh, many of the travellers were riding on top of the train or clinging outside the doors.

An investigation of the derailment started today as several theories for the derailment emerged.

In Bangladesh's worst train disaster on Jan 15, at least 135 people were killed and hundreds injured at Pubail, near Dhaka.

An official investigation committee said yesterday the accident was caused by human error.

Military promises to return Paraguay to democracy

Stroessner ousted in coup

ASUNCION, Feb 3. (Reuters): Paraguayan strongman Alfredo Stroessner was ousted in a military coup today after 34 years in power, and state radio said coup leader General Andres Rodriguez would succeed him as President.

The radio said Rodriguez, 64, promised to return the country to democracy.

A military spokesman said Stroessner, 76, was being held in an Army barracks after the overnight coup, in which at least 12 people were killed.

Thousands of people sang and danced in the streets of Asuncion after Stroessner was detained by Army units backed by dissident members of his own Colorado Party.

Stroessner said in a radio statement that Stroessner's house and the nearby barracks of the Presidential Guard in a suburb of Asuncion, capital and only major city of the land-locked South American



Mubarak (right) in talks with Sheikh Sabah in Cairo. (Reuters wirephoto)

'We don't have a magic wand'

Sheikh Sabah cautiously hopeful about Lebanon

DAMASCUS, Feb 3. (Agencies): Relations between Kuwait and Iran are on the way to normalcy "despite what had happened and despite all the missiles that hit us," Kuwait's Deputy Premier and Foreign Minister Sheikh Sabah Al Ahmed said yesterday.

In an interview with the magazine Al Watan Al Arabi he said: "No one can just carry his country on his back and move it to another place if he doesn't like the surrounding circumstances. We are neighbours of Iran and we have to admit and recognize that the neighbour is a neighbour whatsoever."

Sheikh Sabah expressed hope that Saudi-Iranian relations would one day return to what they used to be.

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Zeben said KAC has four Boeing 747s and three 767s.

KAC planes are safe

KUWAIT, Feb 3. (KUNA): The Director-General of Kuwait Airways Corporation, Ahmad Faisal Al Zebe, has assured that it is absolutely safe to fly with KAC. He also said the KAC planes are operating smoothly.

He said KAC inspects all of its planes regularly without being instructed by others. He was commenting on reports that US officials intend to check different types of Boeing planes, in the wake of the Midland Airways air liner crash in central England on Jan 8.

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Bush revises foreign policy structure

WASHINGTON, Feb 3, (Agencies): President Bush has revised the structure of his foreign policy staff but the changes pose no threat to the power of Secretary of State James Baker, administration sources said yesterday.

Bush approved a proposal that would place Brent Scowcroft, his National Security Adviser, in charge of two panels made up of his top foreign policy advisers.

"This is a fine-tuning of the structure," said one White House source. "There is no power grab here."

Historically, the ambitions of the Secretary of State and the National Security Adviser have clashed, with the elevation of one usually undercutting the power of the other.

Henry Kissinger, for example, began as former President Richard Nixon's National Security Adviser and was so successful he became Secretary of State as well.

Agreed

In the current case, Baker agreed to the restructuring of the national security operations and the duties of Scowcroft, according to one source who said the two men have been close friends for years.

Administration sources said the restructuring included an attempt to better co-ordinate internal procedures, which expanded during the eight years Ronald Reagan was President.

Fog hits Paris

PARIS, Feb 3, (Reuters): Fog blanketed Paris today causing confusion at airports and the Environment Ministry said it was closely monitoring the level of pollution trapped over the city by a layer of stagnant air.

The top of the 320-metre (1,000-foot) Eiffel Tower was lost in the clouds and a thick morning mist over the River Seine obscured one bank of the capital from the other.

Temperatures at dawn hovered around freezing point.

Some flights were delayed or cancelled at Orly and Charles de Gaulle airports and early international arrivals were diverted to Brussels, Amsterdam and Stockholm.

The Mediterranean port of Marseille, although the weather was much warmer, a similar heavy lid of air stifled the city.

Persist

Environment Minister Brice Lalonde said ministry experts were keeping an eye on rising levels of sulphur dioxide from factories and nitrous oxide from vehicles in several cities.

The situation was likely to persist for several days and the ministry would issue daily reports but no measures would be taken immediately to reduce pollution, he added in a statement.

France, like many countries in continental Europe, is experiencing its mildest winter on record, creating a variety of problems.

Botha quits party leadership

CAPE TOWN, South Africa, Feb 3, (UPI): President Pieter W. Botha resigned his 10-year leadership of the ruling National Party in a move foreshadowing a new leader of the minority white government.

A ruling party spokesman said it was unlikely that the 73-year-old Botha, who suffered a stroke on Jan 18, would remain as President after his term expires on Sept 3.

Botha submitted his resignation to the National Party moments before its 130 Members of Parliament held a caucus on the eve of the opening of the 1989 parliamentary session in Cape Town.

The caucus narrowly elected National Education Minister

Frederik de Klerk, 52, as party leader and the man most likely to succeed Botha.

Botha's resignation, characterised by television as a "stunning turn of events," forced an unexpected ballot and effectively blunted a power struggle among at least five potential candidates.

Relinquished

Con Botha, the ruling party's director of information, said in an interview Botha would not have relinquished control of the party had he not also intended to step down as President.

"Having resigned the rather stressful position of party leader, it may be possible (for Botha) to see out the rest of his term as President of state," he said.

He said he expected Botha to

be "guided entirely" by his doctors on whether to remain President until the end of his term.

De Klerk is leader of the ruling party in the northern province of Transvaal, where the rival right-wing Conservative Party captured control of two-thirds of the white municipal councils in October elections.

In a statement, De Klerk said the ultimate aim of the National Party was "a free South Africa in which justice towards every South African as an individual as well as in group context will be done."

"A great deal of progress has already been made but a tremendous amount of work is still to be done," De Klerk said.



Mitterrand honours Satyajit Ray

CALCUTTA, Feb 3, (UPI):

French President Francois Mitterrand visited the teeming metropolis of Calcutta yesterday after making "considerable progress" towards improved Indo-French relations during meetings in New Delhi with Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi.

Mitterrand presented France's highest civilian award, the Legion of Honour, to prize-winning Bengali film director Satyajit Ray during a crowded ceremony on the steps of the National library.

Mitterrand praised Ray as "one of the most fascinating artists of our time."

"France pays tribute to a great film director and a friend. She wants to show her gratitude to a great creator who continues to bear witness to the plight of all humanity," Mitterrand said as he hung the blue-ribboned medal around Ray's neck.

Ray, 68, has won numerous national and international awards for the 26 feature films he has directed since 1955.

Divorce row

ATHENS, Feb 3, (Reuters): Greek Prime Minister Andreas Papandreou's American-born wife Margaret has criticised him for using government announcements to publicise their marital problems.

Papandreou, in a statement released yesterday, said his wife had rejected his offer to start divorce proceedings before she left for a 25-day visit to the US.

Child's note finds a friend, an ocean away

PALM BEACH GARDENS, Florida, Feb 3, (AP): Ashira Konigsburg was four when she tucked a note into a bottle and tossed it into the Atlantic Ocean. Now she's six and has a new friend in a place she's never heard of, 2,500 miles (4,000 kilometres) away.

Alfred Sousa Pedro, a 36-year-old cook, found Ashira's 16-ounce (450-gramme) soda bottle on Jan 3 as he walked along a beach on Sao Miguel, the larger of the Azores islands about 800 miles (1,290 kilometres) west of mainland Portugal.

The islands are brushed by the same Gulf stream currents that flow off Florida.

In a telephone interview on Wednesday with the Palm Beach Post, Sousa Pedro said he doesn't understand English and so he had his brother read the note.

Bottle

The note explained that Ashira was taking part in a summer camp programme. It asked whoever found the bottle to return the enclosed form, after noting the place and the day the bottle was found.

"It was strange because it took so long to get here. I knew that I had to write back," Sousa Pedro said.

"I want to meet this girl," he added.

Ashira, of Palm Beach Gardens, threw the bottle into the ocean off Fort Lauderdale on June 30, 1987. "I totally forgot about it after the first year," she said.

"I think I'll write him back," she added. "I will thank him for finding this bottle and writing back. I want to know how he feels."

Stroessner ousted in coup

(Continued from Page 1)

rebels battled Stroessner loyalists outside his suburban home and the nearby barracks of the Presidential Guard.

Shortly after daybreak General Andres Rodriguez, 64-year-old commander of the First Cavalry Division and apparent leader of the coup, announced: "General Stroessner has surrendered and is under arrest."

Rodriguez, whose daughter Marta is married to Stroessner's youngest son Alfredo, said he took the action in the name of democracy.

But diplomatic sources said Stroessner had been about to order the strongly-built, grey-haired Rodriguez into retirement.

The coup was backed by dissident members of Stroessner's own Colorado Party known as Traditionalists.

As rival Army factions battled around Stroessner's home and the barracks of the Presidential Guard, Air Force fighters flew overhead and truckloads of civilian supporters of the rebels roared through the streets waving Colorado Party flags.

In Washington, a Bush administration official said the US government noted that Rodriguez had "indicated a desire to move toward democracy. We hope he carries through."

Iraqi, Iranian military....

(Continued from Page 1)

told a meeting of military officials that the armed forces should remain vigilant because the ceasefire with Iraq cannot be trusted to last regardless of future developments.

Iran said its foreign minister Ali Akbar Velayati will fly to New York next week to attend a Security Council session to extend the mandate of UNIMOG.

Resumption
Gulf-based UN officials said they hoped the Iranian official would meet his Iraqi counterpart in New York, and that this would mark the resumption of stalled peace talks with Iraq.

The UN officials said Iraqi Foreign Minister Tareq Aziz would also be visiting New York at the same time as Velayati, and was willing to sit down with his Iranian counterpart.

Cold snap

NEW YORK, Feb 3, (AP): A blast of cold air out of Alaska brought snowstorms and plunging temperatures to the west and Midwest, triggering hundreds of traffic accidents and closing schools, and threatened to end the east's record warm spell yesterday.

"Today was it. It will get seasonal," National Weather Service meteorologist Bill Scarni said at Atlantic City airport in New Jersey, where a balmy reading of 69 degrees Fahrenheit (20.5 Celsius) was one of 51 high-temperature records broken or tied in the east and south on Wednesday.

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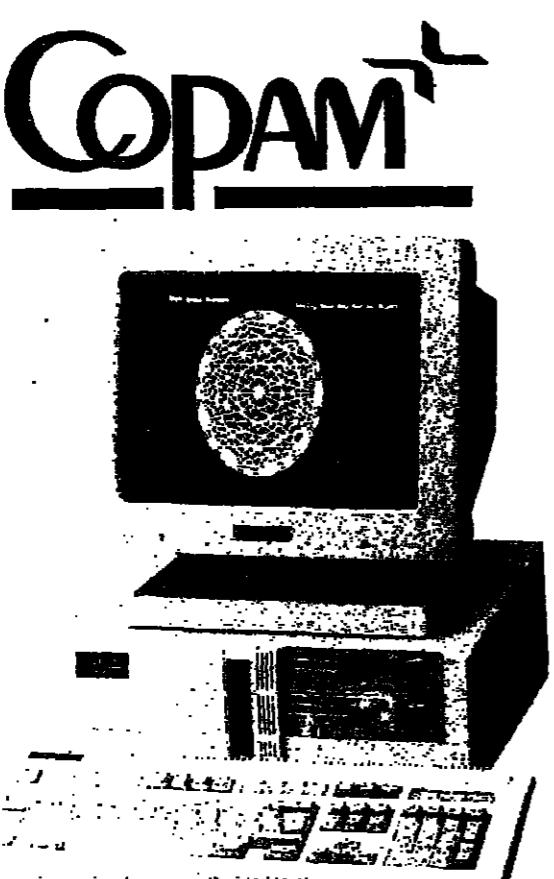
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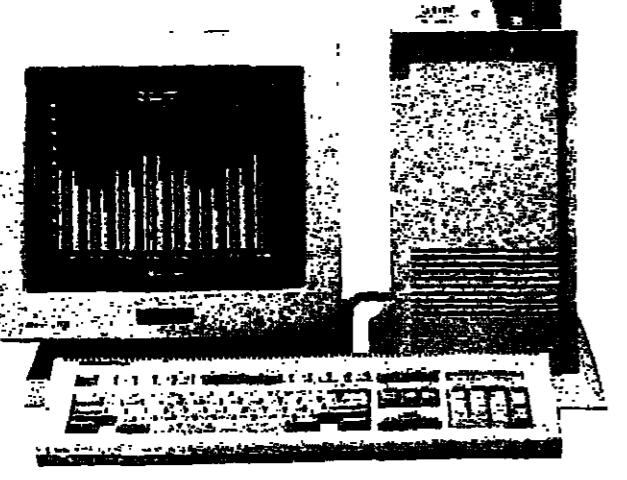
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N. Korean agent charged with mass murder

SEOUL, Feb 3, (Reuters): South Korean state prosecutors today formally charged a self-avowed North Korean agent with mass murder over the 1987 destruction of a Southern airliner, which killed 115 people.

A prosecution spokesman said Kim Hyun-Hui, 27, who has publicly confessed to planting bombs aboard the plane, would remain under security protection until she stands trial, probably later this month.

Kim, detained in Bahrain and extradited to Seoul, told interrogators she blew up the Korean Air Lines Boeing 707 on the written orders of Kim Jong-II, son and heir-designate of North Korean President Kim Il-Sung.

She said her aim was to spark security fears which would make it impossible for South Korea to host the 1988 Olympics. Despite the tragedy, a record 160 countries, including most of North Korea's allies, sent athletes to Seoul.

South Korea withheld legal action against Kim, known at first as Mayumi from the name he was carrying when arrested, until after the Olympics as part of an effort to persuade the North to take part in the Games.

Iran steps up bid to unite Afghan rebels

NICOSIA, Feb 3, (Reuters): Iran's Foreign Minister has returned to Tehran from Pakistan with the head of an Afghan guerrilla alliance for negotiations on uniting the rebels, the Iranian news agency IRNA said today.

The minister, Ali Akbar Velayati, said he held satisfactory talks on rebuilding Afghanistan after a Soviet military pullout and encouraging formation of a popular government.

Government

He was accompanied by Sibghatullah Mojaddidi, leader of a seven-party mujahideen alliance based in Peshawar, for more discussions with an Iran-based eight-party coalition, IRNA said.

"Now we have reached the gate of victory it is necessary we reach a comprehensive understanding with other brothers on the formation of a government," it quoted Mojaddidi as saying.

Before leaving Pakistan last night, Velayati advised the rebels to unite and avoid differences over small issues.

Mojaddidi, a moderate among the mujahideen, wants to per-

suade the Iran-based guerrillas to take part in a consultative council meeting to approve an interim Afghan government.

The eight Iran-based groups are Shiite Muslim while Mojaddidi's alliance is drawn from the country's majority Sunnis.

They have rejected an offer of 10 seats each on the council, or "shura," arguing that they should have a total of 120 seats to reflect the proportion of Shiite Afghans.

A meeting of the council has been set for Feb 10, five days before a Soviet troop withdrawal should be completed, but Mojaddidi said more talks with mujahideen in Iran were needed.

Tactics

Soviet forces today appeared to have adopted new convoy tactics after troops leaving Afghanistan along the crucial Salang Highway came under fire from mujahideen.

Soviet sources said an earlier plan to evacuate the bulk of the troops stationed in and around Kabul up the highway in one giant column seemed to have been dropped in favour of

smaller convoys.

A column of 118 tanks, armoured personnel carriers, communications trucks and other specialist vehicles left on Thursday morning, witnesses said.

Another smaller group was apparently forming up today, despite thick snow on the road.

Two Soviet soldiers at a marshalling area at the southern end of the Salang Highway said they were due to depart during the day, weather permitting. One was going up the road by convoy and the other by air.

Plane

Snow which fell intermittently yesterday continued overnight and today until it lay about 15 cm deep, restricting visibility and forcing Kabul airport — a vital lifeline to the outside world — to close.

Giant Ilyushin-76 transport planes have been flying out Soviet troops and equipment for more than two weeks.

Meanwhile, Pakistan said that an Afghan plane which crashed in northwest Pakistan was loaded with rockets and ammunition.

Iran pardons anti-Islamic broadcasters

NICOSIA, Feb 3, (Reuters): Iran's spiritual leader Ayatollah Khomeini has pardoned radio officials sentenced to be flogged and jailed for broadcasting an unauthorized interview, the Iranian news agency said.

In the broadcast, which angered Khomeini, a woman chose as a role model a Japanese soap opera star rather than Bibi Fatima, daughter of the Holy Prophet Mohammad (Peace be upon him).

Director of broadcasting Mohammad Arab Mazar-Yazdi had been sentenced to five years in prison and three directors were each given four-year prison terms and ordered to receive 50 lashes.

Khomeini, in a letter to the managing director of radio and television on Sunday, said "if proven there was a deliberate insult, undoubtedly the person who has made the insult receives a death penalty," IRNA, monitored in Cyprus, reported.

The Tehran daily Resalat reported on Monday that a woman interviewed on the programme said she rejected the holy prophet's daughter as a role model because she lived 1,400 years ago.

11 killed as Tamils attack village

COLOMBO, Feb 3, (UPI): Rebels of the ethnic Tamil minority stormed a majority Sinhalese village in eastern Sri Lanka, killing at least 11 people, a senior police official said today. Up to 50 people were feared wounded.

The official blamed last night's raid at Boyagamurwayya, about 180 km northeast of Colombo, on the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam (LTTE), the only Tamil guerrilla group still pursuing a war for independence for the Tamil-dominated north and east.

An unknown number of LTTE rebels charged into the Sinhalese village and attacked residents in their homes with firearms and machetes, he said.

At least 11 bodies were recovered by security forces this morning and as many as 50 people were feared wounded, although a precise number was not known as some villagers had fled for their lives, the official said.

He said a search for the assailants was launched by Sri Lankan soldiers and troops belonging to a 60,000-man Indian force deployed in the north and east to crush the LTTE under a July 1987 Indo-Sri Lankan accord.

The accord granted limited self-rule to Tamil areas to satisfy Tamil calls for independence from the Sinhalese-controlled central government.

Other Tamil rebel groups endorsed the peace plan and in elections last year, took control of a new northeastern province council. The LTTE, the largest and most popular guerrilla organisation, rejected the accord, contending it failed to devolve sufficient powers to the council.

The LTTE, which was once backed by New Delhi, has been badly mauled by more than a year of combat with Indian forces, but continues to wage a guerrilla war from jungle hideouts. More than 600 Indian troops have died, while there is no firm estimate of rebel losses.

The police official said the latest LTTE attack came amid an escalation in the group's operations apparently timed to coincide with the 41st anniversary of independence from Britain, which falls on Saturday.

The LTTE has distributed leaflets and posters vowing to disrupt independence day ceremonies, promoting the government to deploy troops to protect potential targets.

Maghreb summit set for Feb. 15

RABAT, Feb 3, (Reuters): Leaders of five North African states will meet in Morocco from February 15-17, the Foreign Ministry said.

It said in a statement the meeting of Marrakesh of leaders from Algeria, Morocco, Mauritania, Tunisia and Libya follows meetings between officials in recent months to forge closer co-operation.

The five heads of state are expected to declare the creation of the Arab Maghreb Union. The first summit of North African countries was held in Algeria last June.

The new union, which would represent more than 62 million people, is intended to serve as a counterweight to the European Economic Community with which all North African countries have close economic ties.

The summit will take place a week after the first state visit to Morocco by Algerian President Chadli Benjedid.

The two most populous North African countries have been at odds for 13 years over a conflict in the Western Sahara, where Algeria has supported Polisario guerrillas.

Zia's son may join politics

BAHRAIN, Feb 3, (Reuters): The eldest son of the late President Gen. Zia-ul-Haq of Pakistan said he was considering entering politics.

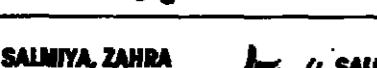
"Nothing definite yet, but I am thinking of starting from scratch and forming my own party to contest the next elections," Ijaz-ul-Haq, 36, a vice-president at Bank of America based in Bahrain, told Reuters by telephone.

Ijaz said in an earlier interview with the English-language Gulf Daily News that he was in touch with political parties at home "committed to Islam and Pakistan."

After his father's death in a plane crash on Aug 17, Benazir Bhutto, daughter of executed Prime Minister Zulfikar Ali Bhutto, won general elections and became prime minister.

Ijaz also told Reuters he was certain there was a cover-up in investigations into the crash which killed his father.

End of season prices



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Teletext functions from Kuwait and Gulf T.V. stations in English and Arabic.

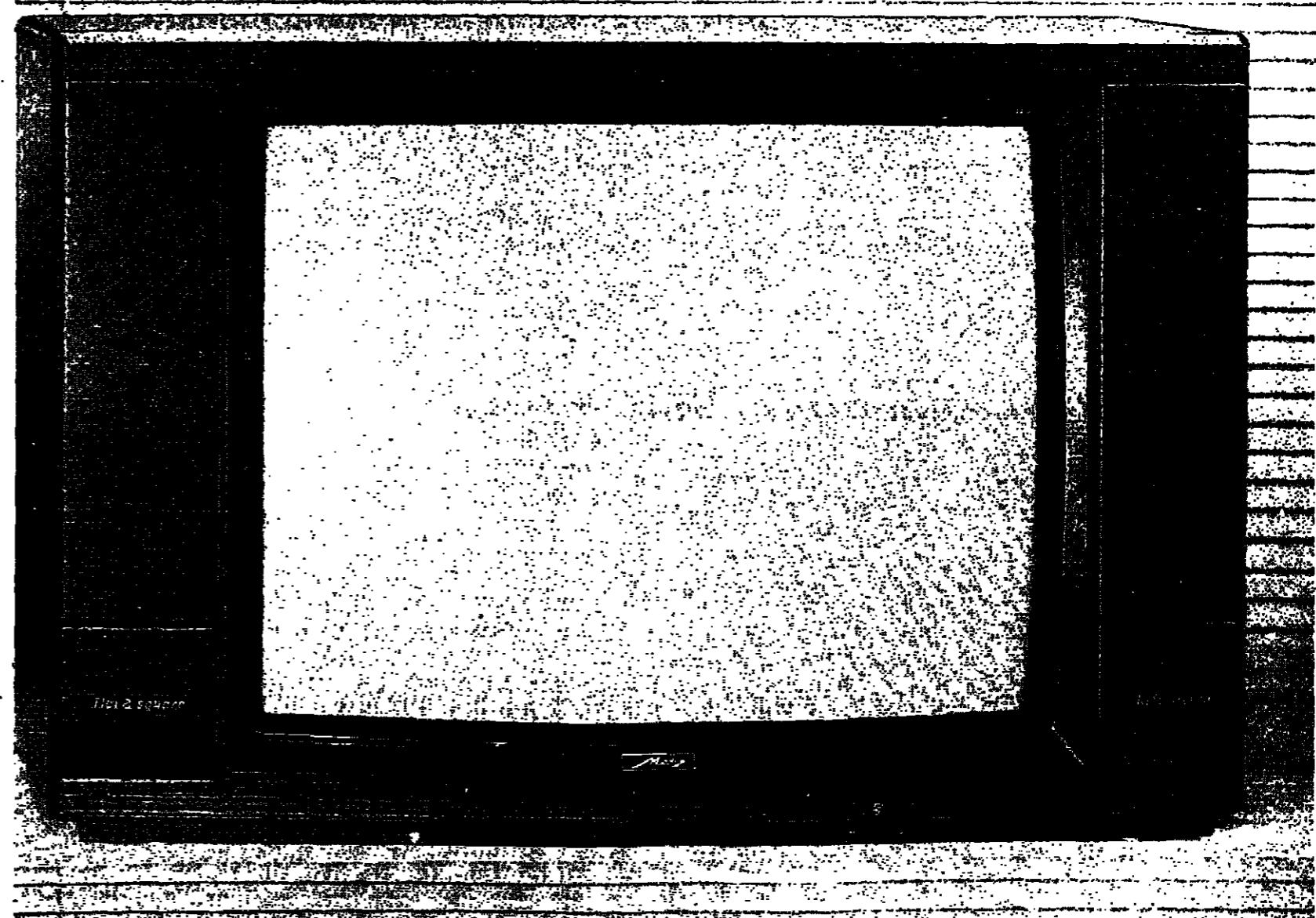
TECHNICAL SPECIFICATIONS AND FEATURES

MAIN FEATURES

- FST** 63 cm (25") flat & square colour tube
- ETI** CTI colour transient improvement for optimum definition
- Music power 2 x 30 Watts (DIN 45324)
- Full stereo and twin-channel sound
- HiFi speakers
- Various sound selections, such as mono sound in pseudo-stereo, stereo "wide", etc.
- Headphone socket with separate volume control and separate channel selection on the TV set
- Infrared remote control for TV and teletext functions
- 50 programme positions with automatic management of memory positions
- All-band tuner for cable reception, prepared for addition of a hyperband tuner
- Direct satellite reception via satellite TV receiver and parabolic aerial
- Multi-standard reception can be added at any time
- Intelligent teletext decoder can be plugged in
- Versatile facilities of connection: Euro-socket, AV-socket, audio socket and loudspeaker sockets

FURTHER DETAILS

- 4-digit LED display for all functions, such as programme, channel, special channels, Euro-socket and AV-socket, volume, brightness, luminance contrast, colour contrast, bass, treble, and balance.
- Permanent display of programme or channel on the LED display can be selected and stored.
- Power-economy circuitry.
- "LUX" automatic contrast control to adjust contrast to room illumination.
- Self-seeking tuning with automatic fine tuning (AFT) and electronic storage of 50 stations. Automatic management of storage positions. Individual fine tuning can also be stored.
- Further remote control features: fine station tuning, direct access to desired channel.
- All important functions may also be controlled directly from the TV set.
- All picture and sound settings can be stored.
- Separate volume adjustment for Euro-socket and AV-socket to match the sound level to that of normal TV programmes. Sound channel 1 or 2 freely selectable on the EURO-socket.
- Freely selectable Euro or AV operation on any programme position.
- Front-mounted stereo headphone jack socket (for 6.35 mm plug).
- Additional teletext functions: freely selectable 4-character logo for each of the 50 programme positions; display of a station table with programme number, channel number and logo in both English and Arabic languages.
- Easy-to-use electronic safety lock
- Random numbers for lottery numbers
- Cabinet: Metallic lava Item No. 7741007
- Metallic bronze Item No. 7741002
- Dimensions (W x H x D): 74 x 49.7 x 41.5 cm



Health official warns against eating raw eggs

KUWAIT, Feb 3. (KUNA): Director of Nutrition and Feeding Department at the Ministry of Health, Fawzia Al Awadi has warned against eating raw eggs and recommended that any food containing eggs should be thoroughly cooked, as it may cause salmonella poisoning.

Awadi said that hygienic improvement in animal production areas such as poultries and slaughterhouses have helped considerably against salmonella contamination.

Veterinarians say eggs carry salmonella when the exterior shell develops cracks allowing germs to enter from the affected mother. They found out that salmonella bacteria grows in chickens and could contaminate the yolk and the white layers inside the egg and that removal of germs from the shell would not help if the egg was affected during the formation period.

Checks

Director of Food and Construction Licences at Kuwait Municipality Yousef Al Mayam told KUNA that locally produced eggs are thoroughly checked by medical authorities before and after putting it on the market.

He said imported eggs are subject to visual and machine checks and workers too are

Applied education official leaves for Libya

KUWAIT, Feb 3. (KUNA): Director of the Continuing Education and Community Service Department at the Public Authority for Applied Education and Training Ghulam Al Attar left home today for Libya to attend the meetings and symposium sponsored by the Arab Federation for Technical Education from Feb 6 until the middle of this month.

Observer

Attar will attend the said meeting as an observer, but will take part at the symposium by presenting a study on aspirations of Kuwaiti society in the field of community service.

The event will be jointly organised by the federation, the Libyan Ministry of Education and UNESCO.

In a pre-departure statement to KUNA, Attar expressed hope that the visit would be a good omen for co-operation between the authority and the federation, describing it as an appropriate opportunity to meet with other Arabs and exchange views on vocational and technical education matters in the Arab world.

Benefit

He also hoped that participants would benefit from the studies and research to be discussed at the international forum, in order to upgrade applied education and training on the long run.

Seven years for shooting cousin

THE Cassation Court upheld the sentence of seven years rigorous imprisonment imposed by the Criminal Court on a man accused of shooting his cousin. The sentence was also upheld by the Court of Appeals.

The court was told that the defendant went to the victim's camp in Sulabiya area and fired several shots at the victim with a pistol.

All shots except one missed. The victim was rushed to the hospital and was treated for a bullet wound in his chest.

The defendant claimed that as the victim was defaming him, he intended to only threaten the victim. The court however did not believe the defence and upheld the sentence.

Pearls project

THE Municipal Affairs Committee headed by the State Minister for Municipal Affairs, Mohammed Al Sayed Abdul Mohsen Al Rifai held a meeting to discuss the Kuwait Pearls Project.

The project aims at establishing modern cities along Kuwait's sea coasts. Additionally, the project envisages organising all of Kuwait's beaches at a total estimated cost of more than KD400 million.

THE AMERICAN SCHOOL

IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENT

- Re-enrolment for returning students for the 1989-90 academic year will take place between February 1-28, 1989.
- Siblings of returning students may be enrolled for the 1989-90 academic year with priority over other new students between February 1-28, 1989.
- New student applications for the 1989-90 year will be accepted beginning February 4, 1989.

The school may be unable to secure plans for its current students and for the siblings of current students who enroll after February 28, 1989.

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Soviet envoy praises role as OIC chairman

By Hussain Salameh



Soviet Ambassador Ernest Zverev

MOSCOW welcomes Kuwait's contributions towards solving the Afghan problem, according Soviet Ambassador Ernest Zverev. The Ambassador announced yesterday that his country holds the positive and constructive attitude of the Kuwaiti leadership in the highest esteem.

Zverev said that every time he met Kuwaiti leaders in his capacity as Soviet ambassador to Kuwait, he witnessed concrete signs of co-operation and understanding on the part of these officials towards obtaining an acceptable solution.

Kuwait is one of the few Islamic states that still maintains diplomatic relations with the government in Kabul, the official said. He praised Kuwait's role as the chairman of the Organisation of Islamic Conference (OIC).

Zverev emphasised that even after the Soviet troop withdrawal from Afghanistan, the problem will be far from settled. He added that the Soviet Union welcomes the assistance from any state towards solving the Afghan crisis — especially from the Kuwait which plays a vital role in the Arab and Islamic worlds.

He praised Kuwait's policy, adding that although Kuwait is a small country, it wields big political clout. He also praised Saudi contribution to solving the Afghan issue.

Zverev added that the Soviet Union still believes that the best way to solve the Afghan problem is through peaceful negotiations and the formation of an Afghan government in which all parties are represented.

He added that a comprehensive solution cannot be achieved without a ceasefire. He regretted that the Afghan opposition com-

but the two countries exchange no diplomatic representatives. Positive factors in the Saudi-Soviet relations have considerably increased. Among these factors was the visit of the Soviet Deputy Foreign Minister Voroncov to Riyadh and his meeting with the Custodian of the two Holy Mosques, King Fahd. There are other events that indicate increasing positive prospects in Soviet-Saudi relations Zverev said without further elaboration. He added that with the lapse of time, diplomatic representation between the two countries will be restored. He said: "We are optimistic about future relations."

Zverev stressed on the importance of peaceful negotiations between Iraq and Iran and added that it may require some more time. He added that converting from a scene of war into one of peace and understanding takes some time. As the two armies were still facing each other at close range in various border areas, he did not rule out the possibility of a renewed crisis.

It is necessary to continue negotiations under UN auspices as positive signs have been achieved by the exchange of POWs and the formation of the joint military committee, he said.

He added that the Soviet Union actively contributed to put an end to the fighting and made contacts with Tehran and Baghdad to achieve this goal.

The Soviet Union also contributed through the UN Security Council in issuing Resolution 598. The Soviet Union will continue this policy until durable peace is achieved in the region and stability and freedom of navigation is achieved in the Gulf, the official said.

The Soviet ambassador refused to predict the outcome of

the Middle East peace conference to be held this year. He said that what was important was not the holding of peace conference per se, but the results.

He expressed optimism on the Palestinian question, although he described the issue as complicated. He said that the idea of holding the peace conference has been attracting more support and most important recent one is the West European position in supporting.

He said that now it's only USA and Israel that refuse to hold the conference. Zverev said that Soviet contacts with Israel, especially the meeting between Shevardnadze and Israeli Foreign Minister, Moshe Arens, was aimed at convincing the Israeli leadership to positively respond to peace efforts.

The main aim of these contacts is to arrive at practical steps to solve the Middle East problem. He said that the Soviet Union exerted every effort in trying to bring about a solution to the conflict in the past years and is determined to continue these efforts.

He added that based upon this, it is still difficult to say whether the peace conference will be held this year or not.

Kuwait may mediate

PAKISTANI Charge d'Affaires to Kuwait, Sayed Khalid Afzeli has said that Kuwait may take part in mediation efforts to solve the Afghan problem. He said that Kuwait as the Chairman of the OIC has contacted Pakistan and Afghanistan separately.

"Kuwait can play the role of a good mediator because it maintains strong relations with both the US and the Soviet Union," the diplomat said.

New stamps for National Day

KUWAIT, Feb 3. (KUNA): New stamps commemorating Kuwait's 28th National Day will come on offer on February 25, the postal department said yesterday.

A department statement said the stamps feature a map of Kuwait carried by two individuals wearing the black, white, green and red colours of the national flag of Kuwait.

The stamps concern three denominations of 30 fils, 100 fils and 150 fils.

Training course for social workers

LATIFA Al Rajaib, the Assistant Undersecretary for Social Affairs and Labour will open the training course designated for social workers and supervisors next Sunday.

The eight-week course will be attended by 150 male and female supervisors. The course aims at enhancing participants knowledge about ministry requirements and policy related to the field of social care.

The ministry's objective is to decrease its dependence on social housing care and direct its policies towards more modern methods of social care — giving the family a larger role.

Smoking-free day at Bahrain airport

BAHRAIN, Feb 3. (Reuter): Workers at Bahrain's International Airport will observe a smoking-free day on Sunday, the Gulf News Agency reported on Friday.

No camel jockeys to UAE, says Sri Lanka

COLOMBO, Feb 3, (Reuter): Sri Lanka will enforce strictly a ban on local boys being employed as camel jockeys in the United Arab Emirates where camel racing is popular among wealthy residents and tourists, after reports of ill-treatment, a senior official said today.

The stamp features three denominations of 30 fils, 100 fils and 150 fils.

Two-month stay in the emirates

Soysa said agencies were liable to a fine and a two-year jail sentence if found guilty of violating laws that do not allow the employment of children below 14 years of age.

Police said several Sri Lankan

residents had been caught with

boys at work as camel jockeys.

They could not give figures.

Soysa said that although the ban was introduced in 1985

authorities could not act until

some boys returned to the island

last year and complained of ill treatment.

"Our action is confined to

violators of local laws, not employers in the emirates," he said.

UAE women must unveil for new passport rule

DUBAI, Feb 3. (AP): Security authorities have abandoned Muslim tradition that women cover their faces and ordered that they include photographs in their passports, immigration officials disclosed Thursday.

The cabinet made the ruling late last night, with little publicity, in an effort to tighten security.

Until now, United Arab Emirates authorities have observed tradition and issued passports to women without photographs or with photos showing them veiled.

But one immigration source,

speaking on condition of anonymity, said the government

decided to change that after discovering several cases of impersonation.

The authorities urged all citizens of the UAE, a federation of seven Gulf emirates, "to cooperate with the decision for their benefit and the country."

While the decision will affect women living throughout the desert states, it will not have much impact in the bustling, cosmopolitan port of Dubai, where most women gave up the veil a long time ago.

The UAE has a population of

1.6 million. The majority are expatriates, mainly Indians and other Asians.

Petroleum symposium to be held February 7

ding applications on advanced control systems in the oil field.

The huge investment by

petroleum companies to reno-

vate and modernise its refineries have made this symposium very important towards enhancing oil operations, the official said.

Kuwait's membership to the International Federation for Automatic Control (IFAC) was accepted in July, 1987. IFAC was established in 1975 as a federation for national establishments.

Important

The three-hour symposium will discuss issues on petroleum industries, the importance of the oil sector on the national economy, improving operations of oil refineries and control systems.

The symposium will emphasise the role played by academic establishments in Kuwait regar-

ding research in the field of automatic control.

Kuwait's membership to the International Federation for Automatic Control (IFAC) was accepted in July, 1987. IFAC was established in 1975 as a federation for national establishments.

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Bahrain endorses plan for International Islamic Court

MANAMA, Feb 3. (AP): Bahrain yesterday endorsed a plan to set up an International Islamic Court of Justice patterned on the World Court at the Hague, the Gulf News Agency (GNA) reported.

A decree issued by the Amir, Sheikh Isa Bin Salman Al Khalifa, approved a decision taken at the last pan-Islamic summit to found the court. "Out of a desire to have a judicial body that settles disputes in line with Islamic sharia," the agency said.

Islamic sharia (legislation) forms the basis for court systems in most of the Islamic countries grouped in the 46-nation Organisation of Islamic Conference (OIC).

Dispute

Establishment of the Islamic Court of Justice was listed in the resolutions of the last OIC summit hosted by Kuwait in January 1987.

According to statutes reported by GNA, the court will be

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Examination in Kuwaiti Schools Book 5

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No fees unless cashed or deposited after

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CPLE

EVENTS

Kuwait makes film on uprising

KUWAIT'S Ministry of Information has produced a documentary on the Palestinian uprising — intifada — in three languages, KUNA reported yesterday.

The documentary made in Arabic, English and French, was produced at the instruction of HH the Amir, chairman of the Fifth Islamic Conference.

It traces the Palestinian issue from its beginning and shows the developments that led to the uprising with hundreds of Palestinians fighting Israeli aggression and oppression. It also examines the violation of human rights in the occupied territories and the plight of the stone-throwers.

Copies of the documentary will be distributed to all members of the Organisation of Islamic Conference and major world organisations.

'Musical dialogue'

PARIS, Feb 3. (KUNA): The Arab Music Academy's convention on the theme of a "musical dialogue between the Arab World and Europe" opened here today.

This first time such a convention is being held outside the Arab world to "enhance cultural ties between the Arab world and Europe."

The Arab World Institute, which is hoisting the convention, will hold a seminar on Euro-Arab musical dialogue. Among the speakers will be Saqr Al Boeyan of Kuwait.

Musicians, academics from Spain, Switzerland and France will discuss "The Realities and Prospects" of the Euro-Arab musical dialogue.

SUNDAY

6.00 Holy Quran
6.10 Dennis the Menace: cartoon serial

6.30 The Owl: documentary. Children are involved in community work.

7.00 Scientific Eye: examines "body temperature."

7.30 The Pursuit of Happiness: Dave is 30. Does he celebrate his birthday? Comedy.

8.00 News in English
8.30 Call McNaull: "Frozen Assets": Jack is called to find the men who robbed a house.

9.40 Dive to Adventure: examines the wealth of life at sea.

10.00 What's Happening Now: "Shirley's Pen Pal." Shirley's pen pal pays a visit.

10.30 Best-Seller: "The Lancaster and Miller Affair". Part 2.

11.30 News Summary/Magazine D'Actualite/Holy Quran/Closedown

MONDAY

6.00 Holy Quran
6.10 Bionic Six: cartoon serial.

6.30 Chocky's Children: based on characters created by John Wyndham.

7.00 Roving Report: weekly roundup of world news and views.

7.30 Perspective: a documentary, it examines emergency measures to rescue people caught in fires.

8.00 News in English
8.40 A Different World: Denise plays host to her younger sister, Maggie.

9.30 Rediscovery of the World: "Waters of the Winds Cape Horn."

10.00 Alfred Hitchcock Presents: "Twisted Sister". A group of young



Children praying on 'Eid'.



A scene from a drama.

TV CORNER

This week on KTV 2

- girls devise a "bravery test" for all newentrants to their club, with some pretty horrific results.
10.30 French Feature Film
11.30 NewsSummary/Magazine D'Actualite/Holy Quran/Closedown
- TUESDAY**
- 6.00 Holy Quran
6.10 Noveltos: cartoon serial
6.30 Break Point: a new series for young viewers.
7.00 Footsteps: "The Marbie Hunter". David Drew retraces the history of some archaeological sites in Turkey.
8.00 News in English
8.40 A Year in the Life: starring Richard Kiley. A misunderstanding simmers during the visit of one of the girls.
9.40 The Hit Squad: "Catch it before it catches you" is the theme of this practical jokes series.
10.10 Basin' Loose: Mimi's adopted family decide to give shelter to a homeless kid.
10.30 Jake and the Fatman: "Blues in the Night". Twin-trouble hits town amid a series of robberies. Starring: William Conrad and Joe E. Penny.
11.30 News Summary/followed by Magazine D'Actualite/Closedown
- WEDNESDAY**
- 6.00 Holy Quran
6.10 Transformers: cartoon



Girls performing the Onam dance. (Photos by Javed Baara)

- 6.30 Emma and Grandpa: a series for children, based on the story of a seven-year-old girl and her relationship with her grandfather.
7.00 Prestige: "Snow-bound". Two people are caught in a snow storm and learn to appreciate each other's views.
7.30 Mutual of Omaha: "Valley of the Beavers".
8.00 News in English
8.40 You and the Law: local programme
8.55 Matlock: "The Therapist". The owner of a hospital is killed and a patient is accused of his murder. Starring: Andy Griffith.
- THURSDAY**
- 6.00 Holy Quran
6.10 The Real Ghost Busters: cartoon serial.
6.30 Fairy Tale Theatre: "Puss in Boots".
7.30 T and T: "Stowaway". Starring: M.T.
8.00 News in English
8.40 The Oldest Rookie: "Grand Theft Avocado". Ike and Tony investigate a theft and find themselves charged. Starring: Paul Sorvino.
- FRIDAY**
- 7.30 Face to Face
8.00 News in English
8.40 Breaking Away.
8.55 Big League Soccer: Brian Moore introduces this sports show on English League games.
9.40 Weekend: "When the Bush Breaks".
10.30 Late Night Movie: "Nobody's Child". Starring: Mario Thomas. A tortured child is placed under psychiatric care where she discovers her powers of healing others.
12.00 NewsSummary/Magazine D'Actualite/Holy Quran/Closedown
- SATURDAY**
- 3.40 The Sylvanian Family: new cartoon feature for children.
4.00 Italian football
5.30 American Basketball
6.30 Star Trek: "When the Bough Breaks". Aliens seek the captain's help, asking him to supply babies.
7.30 Face to Face
8.00 News in English
8.40 Breaking Away.
8.55 Big League Soccer: Brian Moore introduces this sports show on English League games.
9.40 Weekend: "When the Bush Breaks".
10.30 Late Night Movie: "Nobody's Child". Starring: Mario Thomas. A tortured child is placed under psychiatric care where she discovers her powers of healing others.
12.00 NewsSummary/Magazine D'Actualite/Holy Quran/Closedown

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2. SALES REPRESENTATIVES:

Candidates must be graduate, knowing fluent Arabic, having around three years' selling experience in watches, audio/video or house-hold appliances. Knowledge of English is essential and valid Kuwaiti driving licence an advantage.

3. TECHNICIANS:

Diploma holders with 4-6 years' experience in repairs of watches, house-hold appliances and audio/video equipment would ideally suit our requirement.

4. CLERKS (ACCOUNTS/GENERAL):

Preferably commerce graduates with minimum 3 years experience. Arabic typing/book-keeping would be considered a distinct asset.

5. LADY SECRETARY:

Having good knowledge of typing in Arabic/English and telex.

6. DRIVER:

Must have valid Kuwaiti driving licence.

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TELEVISION PROGRAMMES

KTV 1

MORNING

- 9.00 Holy Quran
9.10 Good Morning
9.15 Cartoon serial
9.45 World News via Satellite
10.00 Abna'a Al Diyah: Arabic serial; part 6. Starring: Jamil Awadh, Juliet Awadh, Ruhi Al Sadi, Iman Kamel.
10.50 News Summary/Good Morning
11.00 Al Daleel: local Arabic serial; starring Mohammad Al Manea, Ayesha Ibrahim
12.00 Gulf Cuisine
1.00 News Summary
1.05 Holy Quran/Close-down

EVENING

- 4.00 Holy Quran
4.15 World News via Satellite
4.45 Cartoon serial
5.15 Fanar Sagheer: Young Artists
5.45 Nazrat Al Alam
6.00 Liqa Fi Al Zakira: historical serial; starring

Fakhry Al Akidi, Fawzi Mahdi, Nizar Al Samarai.

7.00 News Summary
7.15 Noor Al Islam

7.50 Security and Citizens

8.30 Good Evening

9.00 News in Arabic

9.50 Daera Al Abdah: Circle of Events.

"Training youth to join industry and science." Guests are Dr Ahmad Ali Jassar, Dr Abdul Rahman Saleh Al Mihaian and Nasser Rashed.

10.45 Ayyam Daiya': Arabic play, starring Zizi Badawi, Ibrahim Khan, Sahar Rami.

12.30 News Summary/World News via Satellite/Holy Quran/Closedown

KTV 2

- 6.00 Holy Quran
6.10 Duck Tales: cartoon serial
6.30 Scheme of Things: "Inventing the Future."

7.00 Sea Urchins: the second summer-time adventure begins when the children discover the submerged hulk of an aircraft.

7.30 Throb: "I Lost Him After the Movie." Sandy finds a lost friend, after 15 years of separation.

8.00 News in English

8.40 Our House: "Friends."

9.30 Mysteries of the Pyramids: Omar Sharif unravels the secrets of the pyramids.

10.30 Made-for-TV Movie: "Banana Joe." Starring: Bud Spencer, Marina Langer, Maria Scarpeta.

11.30 News Summary/Magazine D'Actualite/Holy Quran/Close-down

Please note that programmes and timings are liable to change without notice.

RADIO PROGRAMMES

FM Services

- 0600 Opening/Easy Listening
0830 News
0840 Easy Listening
1000 Songs and Music
1200 Arabic Songs and Music
1300 Easy Listening
1400 News on FM Service
1400 Classical Music
1600 Spanish hour
1700 Arabic Songs and Music
1800 Pop
2130 News
2145 Pop
2200 Indian Classical Hour
2300 Easy Listening
2400 Instrumental Listening
0200 Closedown

English

- MORNING
0800 Opening
0802 Songs and Music
0830 News in English
0840 Songs and Music
0845 Daily Programme
0900 Cultural Horizon
0930 Reggae Rock
1000 Our Press Today
1005 Songs and Music
1100 Closedown
- EVENING
2100 Opening
2102 Kuwait
2200 Songs
2400 Dhank
2100 Closedown

2155 Songs and Music
2200 Kuwait in a Week
2215 Rock On
2245 Daily Programme
2300 Strictly Romantic
2330 Amazing Fact
2400 Closedown

Urdu

1900 Opening
1910 Beheten Qaul
1920 Songs
1935 Press Report
1940 Jazah
2000 News in Urdu
2020 Songs
2040 Dhank
2100 Closedown

NIGHT CHEMIST

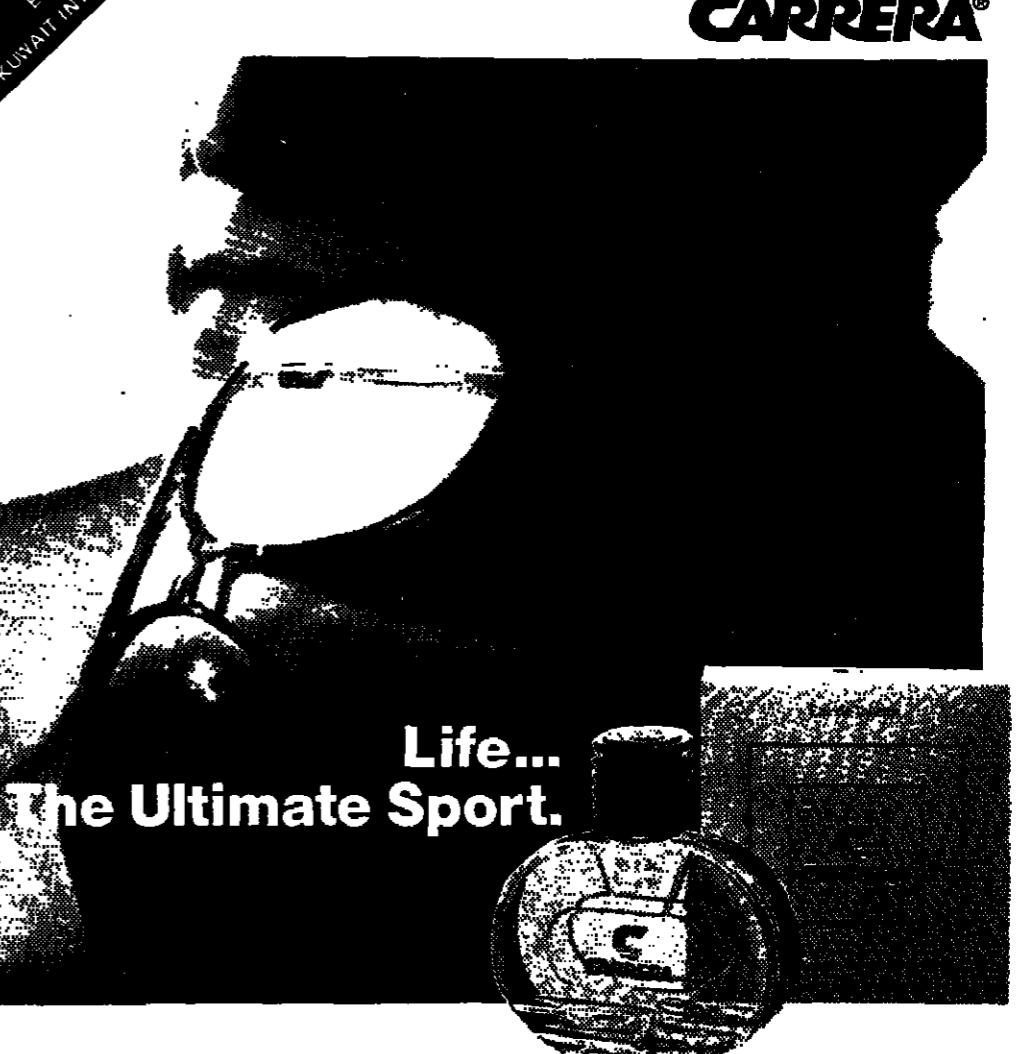
- Kuwait
Caro Pharmacy
Tukhaim Bldg., Fahd Al Salem St.
Al Rashid Pharmacy
Awadih Bldg., Ahmed Al Jaber St.
Miswali and Nugra
Al Sabah Pharmacy
Othman St.
Salimya and Rumathiya
Al Rashed Pharmacy
Anman St.
Fahsheel and Ahmad
Al Bastoor Pharmacy
Qais Al Ghani Bldg., Dabbous St., Feneel Farwaniya
Jara Comm. Centre, Main St.
Jahra
Al Khalid Pharmacy
Opp. Jhr. Co-op. Society

CINEMA TODAY

- Al Andalus
Youn Mir Youm Helu (Arabic)
Starring: Faten Hamama, Mohammad Munier
Al Salimya
Al Zaizal (Arabic play)
Al Hama
Shaftan Yaghra (Arabic)
Starring: Mahmoud Yasseen, Bosi
Drive-In
Bint Min Dahab (Arabic)
Starring: Shireen, Ahmad Rateb, Mahmood Jundi
Al Firdous
Zameen Aasman (Hindi)
Starring: Sunjay Dutt, Anita Raj
Fahsheel Open-Air
Kaus Kitney Paani Mein (Hindi)
Al Jaisra
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Fajr 5.15 am
Zahr 12.02
Asr 3.07 pm
Maghreb 5.29
Isha 6.48

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WHAT'S ON

ARTS

Ghadir Gallery Until Feb. 9: "The Orient in their Eyes", a collection of works by a group of Arab and European painters will be shown at the gallery. Open daily from 9 am to 12.30 pm and 4 to 8.30 pm.

Iwan Gallery Exhibition of lithographs by three 19th century Orientalists. Open from 9 am to 1 pm, 5 to 9 pm, at the gallery located in Zabri Complex, Salimya.

Kuwait Society for Formative Arts UPTO FEB. 9: The Kuwait Society for Formative Arts will hold the annual general exhibition, displaying art works by Kuwaiti and non-Kuwaiti plastic artists.

THEATRE

Kuwait Players Auditions FEB. 5, 7 pm at Messilah Beach Hotel: Kuwait Players auditions will hold two of their coming productions. (1): The Great Celestial Cow, a comedy

SOCIAL

Jumbo Circus The Indian Jumbo Circus, Misrif Grounds, has been extended by popular demand. Show timings are 5 pm and 8 pm.

Sri Lankan Flag-hoisting ceremony FEB. 4, 10 am a flag-hoisting ceremony will be held at the Sri Lankan Embassy premises, Block 6, House 31, Andalus Street, Keifan, to mark the National Day of Sri Lanka.

German-Speaking Ladies Association FEB. 5, 10 am. The regular coffee morning for German-speaking ladies will be held at the Holiday Inn Hotel. Newcomers are particularly welcome.

FLASSIK FEB. 10: 6 pm, Holiday Inn's Al Afrah Ballroom. The

ARAB TIMES

Thought for today

HISTORY is, indeed, little more than the register of the crimes, follies and misfortunes of mankind— Edward Gibbon, English historian (1737-1794).

Vietnam juggles with freedom

By David Storey

HANOI (Reuters): Vietnam is facing a sharp rise in crime and unprecedented civil protest as it wrestles with a classic dilemma of a reforming communist state— how to keep control of society while allowing greater freedom.

The last few months have seen increases in violent and petty crime, reports of spying and sabotage by foreigners, an erosion of moral values and the communist state's first civil protests.

Interior Minister Mai Chi Tho, one of the architects of the old-style rule that suppressed individual initiative, said in December: "Efforts will be made to wage an all-people movement to maintain security."

Nobody is predicting a reverse of the reform policies, particularly those affecting the stagnating economy. But Tho and others have made it clear that allowing more personal initiative must not erode ultimate Communist Party control.

Crimes

Serious crimes increased by 28 per cent last year over 1987, according to Tho's report to the National Assembly last month, and the Ho Chi Minh City youth newspaper Tuoi Tre wrote on Jan 7: "Robberies are increasing day by day."

It catalogued violent thefts of bicycles and motorbikes that left two people dead and many injured in the southern city, formerly Saigon, in November alone.

Armed robbery also raised its ugly head in the north, whose people have a stoic pride in their endurance of poverty and high moral values. Hundreds of people attended the funeral of a man shot dead by a motorcycle thief late last year.

"It's really terrible because we used to feel safe in the streets," said one woman resident. "There is more crime as people's demands increase every day and they are unfilled."

Widening gaps in income also play a part as some private businessmen and shopkeepers begin to thrive.

The and others warn of declining moral standards as the country opens up to more Western influences.

"Social evils, particularly gambling and prostitution, increased," Tho said and blamed

Moves to reduce tensions in Asia

By David R. Schweisberg

BEIJING (UPI): The recent opening of diplomatic channels between the United States and North Korea represents an important step in a series of moves by Asia's major rivals to reduce tensions and improve relations in the region.

In the first substantive diplomatic contacts between the two nations since the 1950-53 Korean war, senior US and North Korean diplomats met in Beijing last month and again last week. The exchanges, requested by North Korea, were brief and narrowly focused, but the very fact the meetings took place was "profound," according to a Western diplomat.

The contact is the latest in a pattern of efforts by the United States, the Soviet Union and China to reach out from ideological base camps and seek pragmatic political and economic accommodations.

A move by long-isolated North Korea to improve relations with the West could give impetus to the easing of tensions in Asia, particularly between the rival communist giants, the Soviet Union and China.

Summit

A high point in the trend came on Thursday, when Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze visited China to prepare for a Sino-Soviet summit and the formal end to a quarter century of official hostility between the communist neighbours.

"It could be peace breaking out all over," said a Western diplomat. "But it could also just be the silly season. Will it last? We don't know."

The Soviets and Chinese are already expanding trade and cultural relations, and have moved steadily to resolve political squabbles.

Moscow has nudged Vietnam

partly "a slackening of discipline in the broadening democracy."

He may have had in mind the vibrant cafe culture proliferating in Ho Chi Minh City.

At a cafe near the Cuu Long Hotel overlooking the Saigon River two young hostesses sat down with two Westerners, pouring their beer, feeding them nuts and behaving like Bangkok bar girls.

A visitor to Vietnam, though warmly welcomed, is left under no illusion that he is watched and that his contacts will be carefully filtered.

The said that in 1988 "the enemy continued to step up the war of sabotage, spy activities and intrusion into Vietnam". The police would be strengthened to cope with this, he said.

Hanoi residents said the system of reporting on others' movements and business — on which Vietnam's internal controls depend — appeared to be as pervasive as ever.

Chatting

On a flight from Hanoi to Ho Chi Minh city a Western journalist was chatting to an elderly government official sitting next to him.

The conversion came at a halt when a younger man rose from a nearby seat and whispered in the official's ear, nodding his head and smiling at the journalist.

Minutes later the old man quietly reached into his shoulder bag and drew out two small rice cakes neatly wrapped in banana leaf, a traditional gift for the Tet new year.

"This one is for you," he said quietly in broken French as he passed one over. "And this is for your loved one."

On a quiet Ho Chi Minh city street, a chat with a young woman sitting on her front step one evening was accompanied by a wild, silent pantomime from a man in a nearby window out of sight of her, shaking his head and putting his finger to his lips.

Control

The rigid system of social control showed signs of lapses last autumn when first farmers then students took the initiative to force their case.

Hundreds of farmers demonstrated in the centre of Ho Chi Minh City in the first such public protest under communist rule, demanding government action on implementing land reforms.

Both the Soviet Union and China have been trying to improve relations with Japan and both have also eagerly moved to increase trade with the burgeoning South Korea economy.

The United States is also involved in the trend, aside from the talks with North Korea. President Bush will stop in China and South Korea next month after visiting Japan for the funeral of Emperor Hirohito.

In Beijing and Moscow, the impetus for relaxation is similar; each is anxious over the fate of ambitious but troubled domestic political and economic reforms, and neither wants to be preoccupied by regional bushfires.

N. Korea, long at odds with the West and hostile to South Korea, remains a potential source of disruption.

Signals

For years, Pyongyang has played the Soviet Union and China against each other. Now both communist giants appear to be leaning on North Korea's maverick president, Kim Il Sung, to come in from the cold and he has recently sent encouraging signals to South Korea.

The first US-North Korea meeting was held Dec. 26, just three days after Shevardnadze visited Pyongyang where it is reported he outlined Soviet plans for better relations with Seoul.

"There's clearly been some nudging by both the Chinese and the Soviets," said a Beijing-based diplomat who was recently in North Korea. "They have a common interest in a loosening up on the Korean peninsula."

By Christopher Wilson

WALVIS BAY, South Africa. (Reuters): When Namibia finally gains independence after three quarters of a century of Pretoria's rule, the key port of Walvis Bay will remain under control of the South African government.

It's an important strategic foothold in Namibia for South Africa and it's vital to the economy of the region," he added.

Crouched amid giant sand dunes at the edge of the Namib desert, Walvis Bay has little of the usual charm of a harbour town, and its residents fight a continuous battle against the shifting dunes and the overpowering smell of fish wafting in from the harbour.

But the strategic value of the enclave is clear. Most of the uranium, diamonds, copper, lead and other minerals that comprise 85 per cent of Namibia's exports

By Stephen Weeks

ATHENS, (Reuters): Feuding NATO allies Greece and Turkey have kept a pledge to step back from war but seem in no hurry to be pushed into a peaceful embrace.

The two countries have exchanged a string of sharply-worded complaints since last January's landmark peace summit in Davos, Switzerland, between Greek Prime Minister Andreas Papandreou and Turkish Prime Minister Turgut Ozal.

They have avoided detailed discussion of the disputes which brought them to the brink of war several times in the past 30 years: rights in the Aegean region and the military-divided island of Cyprus.

But the survival of the landmark "No-war" accord between two countries at odds for centuries is regarded by many as a triumph.

"Tension is reduced automatically by the very fact

that the dialogue is there," Turkey's new ambassador to Athens, Gunduz Aktan, said in an interview.

"I don't think Davos is running out of steam," Aktan said.

"I think that in the course of this year they will gradually take up the important problems."

Davos is a baby and all babies are very sensitive," Greek Deputy Foreign Minister Yannis Kapsis told Reuters. "We have to handle them with care. It does not mean it won't grow up but it means we have to feed it regularly and properly."

The initiative has spawned some minor confidence-building measures, including advance warning for manoeuvres in the Aegean Sea, lifting of restrictions on diplomatic visas and curtailing military actions during the peak summer tourist season.

Ankara has lifted a 1964 freeze

on millions of dollars of Greek assets in Istanbul and Greece has agreed to let a Turkish state bank, Turkiye Emlak Bankasi, open in Athens.

Papandreou and Ozal have met twice to cement "the spirit of Davos," including Ozal's trip to Athens last June, and record numbers of Greek tourists have headed for Turkey.

Problems

But several public rows in recent months have soured the peace process and officials on both sides say another Papandreou-Ozal meeting is essential to restore momentum.

Among the disputes were a row over Turkey's bid to join the European Economic Community, over which Greece holds a veto, a sharp changeover Ankara's effort to join Aegean air-sea rescue operations and a clash over which areas of Turkey should be included in Western

disarmament talks with the East bloc.

At the same time, Papandreou and Ozal have not even agreed on which problems they pledged to settle in the Davos process.

Greece says there is only one: settling the demarcation of rights in the Aegean, as well as matters concerning the Muslim minority in Greece's western Thrace region are paramount.

But Turkish officials insisted the past year was notable for efforts to resolve these disputes with words instead of guns.

"If the Davos meeting had not taken place, these incidents would have... occurred redress proportions immediately," ambassador Aktan said.

He attributed recent difficulties in the Davos initiative to Papandreou's health — he underwent open-heart surgery last September — and pre-election uncertainties in both countries.

1536—France's King Francis I conquers Savoy and occupies Turin, also signs French alliance with Turkey's Sultan Suleiman I.

1585—France's King Henry III refuses sovereignty of the Netherlands.

1783—Hostilities end between United States and England.

1874—British forces under Garnet Wolseley burn Jumna, India, ending Ashanti war.

1899—Filipinos stage revolt against United States because independence is not granted.

1922—Japan agrees to restore Shantung to China.

1938—Germany's Adolf Hitler assumes office of war minister, and names Joachim von Ribbentrop as foreign minister.

1948—Ceylon becomes self-governing dominion in British Commonwealth.

1961—Terrorist attacks break out in Portuguese African territory of Angola.

1969—China's charged d'affaires in Netherlands, Liao Ho-Shu, arrives in United States and requests political asylum.

1972—Britain and nine other nations recognize East Pakistan as independent nation of Bangladesh.

1973—Jordan's King Hussein rules over hostilities with Israel and says he will seek US President Richard Nixon's help in easing crisis in Middle East.

1986—Group of hard-line Arab leaders, meeting in Libya, threaten anti-American violence "within the United States and throughout the world."

1988—Philippine military announces arrest of 20 prominent Communist Party members.

S. Africa to retain foothold in Namibia

By Sharon Herbaug

KABUL, (AP): The American Club served California wine and cheeseburgers and showed Vietnam movies to a dozen Western diplomats about to be evacuated from the embattled Afghan capital.

The suddenly gathering 100 diplomats followed knowing that the United States, Britain, France, Italy and Japan had their embassies would shut down and its diplomats be sent home before withdrawing Soviet forces took over Kabul to the Afghan Army.

The State Department has said the remaining US citizens would leave in a few days. Dependents and all but 11 diplomats and security guards already have been evacuated.

A non-Western diplomat, speaking on condition of anonymity, called the US decision to close its embassy "all a part of Washington's manoeuvring, trying to show to the world that this

surprise

One Western diplomat said the decision to close the embassy was a surprise and indicated lack of confidence in both the Soviet-sponsored government and the US-supported insurgents.

In Washington, US President George Bush said on Friday there was "uncertainty about what follows" the Soviet departure and the embassy was being closed "provisionally."

When asked when the embassy would formally close, Jon D. Glassman, US Charge d'Affaires, said: "That's not information we are giving out."

Britain and Japan announced on Friday they also would shut their Kabul missions. France said its embassy would be closed "provisionally." In Rome, Foreign Ministry sources confirmed the Italian embassy would close soon.

Rejected

A battle for Kabul, which is surrounded by insurgents, is expected after the last Soviet forces withdraw on Feb. 15 under a UN-mediated agreement. The US embassy is in the heart of the capital next to the state radio and across from the secret police headquarters, both prime targets for the guerrillas.

Muslim guerrillas have rejected Soviet and government proposals for a political settlement. They began fighting after a communist coup 11 years

ago and Soviet soldiers entered Afghanistan in December 1979.

An estimated 115,000 Soviet troops were here when the withdrawal began on May 1988 and the last \$0.00 are to be gone by Feb. 15.

The government of Afghanistan is in a state of collapse.

The Soviet-backed government insists it can defend foreigners from warfare with Muslim guerrillas, who fired rockets into the capital on Friday.

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THE NATIONAL DAY OF SRI LANKA

AN ARAB TIMES SUPPLEMENT

Sri Lankan President appeals for national unity

We must end ethnic discord

"THE 41st anniversary of our Independence comes at a specially important time in our history. In the past year, the people of Sri Lanka have endured much. Yet, with rare courage and endurance, they have snatched hope from the abyss of tragedy. Now, we must sustain and nurture that hope and fulfil its high expectations for the future."

"In recent months, Sri Lankans have repeatedly affirmed their commitment to democracy. This commitment will once again be confirmed at our parliamentary elections this month. Those elements who seek to obstruct or destroy the democratic process will not long be tolerated by the vast majority of freedom-loving Sri Lankans."

"The sovereignty and unity of our motherland and the rights and liberties of our people must be protected at any cost."

Foundation

"Democracy is only the foundation for our new national agenda. Heavy tasks lie ahead. We must reconstruct damaged public property. We must fully restore law and order. We must terminate ethnic discord. We must enhance economic development. Most importantly, we must end poverty. We must accomplish



Ranasinghe Premadasa, President of Sri Lanka.

all this without delay. We have started this process."

"In the years ahead, my government will begin to implement programmes that will give new vitality to the poorest and humblest segments of our society. As we commence this great and exciting venture, I appeal to every Sri Lankan to join in working for the betterment of all, and the upliftment of our motherland."

"In this effort, Sri Lankans

abroad have a special role to play. You have, by hard work and diligence, achieved a great deal. We are proud of the distinctions you have earned all over the world."

"From my personal experience, I know that while you are far from home, Sri Lanka lives in your heart. Today, your motherland needs you. We need your advice. We need your expertise. We need your goodwill and support."

"My government will be formulating programmes through which it will be easy for you to assist us in ways of your choice. I hope you will respond readily. If we are to develop our country we must build an enduring partnership between Sri Lankans at home and Sri Lankans abroad."

"To that end, I welcome any suggestions or proposals that the overseas Sri Lankan community has for contributing to our national improvement."

Task

"No visionary task can be accomplished by material means alone. We need the spiritual guidance and inspiration of the great faiths that bless our motherland."

"The spiritual force will be greater when Buddhists, Hindus, Muslims and Christians join together in bringing peace and progress to Sri Lanka."

The beauty and value of our diverse cultural and religious heritages will be enriched when Sinhalese, Tamils, Muslims and Burghers unite to work for this higher collective goal."

"In moments of celebration, we must not forget those who sacrificed life, limb and property for their motherland. This sacrifice is a human debt we can only repay by our dedication to national unity and renewal. In this way, we must assure that their tragic losses would not have been in vain."

"Four decades ago, the founding father of modern Sri Lanka pledged to create a nation where all people could live in brotherhood, justice and harmony. Let us redeem this pledge through our commitment today. Future generations of Sri Lanka will judge us not by our words, not even by our visions."

"They will judge us by our deeds and our endeavours. On this independence day anniversary, let us declare our honest intent to think and act as brothers, sisters and children of our sacred motherland."

"May the noble triple gem shower blessings on our motherland and all our people."

**Message of H.E.
Ranasinghe Premadasa,
President of Sri Lanka**

Sri Lanka to continue its independent foreign policy

Friendship towards all

"TODAY we celebrate the 41st year of regaining our independence. I send my warm greetings and good wishes to all Sri Lankans and our friends abroad."

"Sri Lanka has recently been through a period of crisis with violence stalking our land. Now as we look forward to the coming year, we can say with confidence that we would overcome this crisis. We have just now concluded the presidential election and parliamentary elections will be held this month. Our people will be proud of the fact that they have bravely re-asserted their commitment to democracy and thereby ensure that the

democratic traditions will continue in Sri Lanka."

"We have now to address ourselves to the task of rebuilding our society and our economy. This is our primary task. In this we confidently look forward to the support of Sri Lankans and our friends abroad and the international community."

"We will continue our independent foreign policy and support the principles of non-alignment, friendship towards all and enmity to none. We will give the fullest support in the establishment of a more equitable international economic order."

"We will also continue our

policy of an open economy. We expect to build on the strong economic foundations that were laid since 1977 and usher in an era of prosperity eliminating poverty and backwardness."

"The people of Sri Lanka are deeply appreciative of the understanding and support given by Sri Lankans abroad and the international community during difficult times. In the challenges that lie ahead they have as much a role to play as the sons and daughters of Sri Lanka."

"We are looking forward to people of all races and faiths in Sri Lanka living together again in peace and harmony — an environment that existed from



A.C.S. Hameed, Foreign minister of Sri Lanka.

ancient times, of which we have rightly been proud and happy."

**Message of A.C.S. Hameed
Minister of Foreign Affairs, Sri Lanka.**

Expats can set an example for their brethren in Sri Lanka

Social cohesion will lead to economic advancement



Abu Qader Hamid Mohammed, Ambassador of Sri Lanka.

"FEBRUARY 4th 1989 marks the 41st anniversary of independence. This year has dawned with silver-linings. We have had a presidential election and the democratic way of life so close to our hearts, was preserved most defiantly."

"We have been blessed with a new President in H.E. Ranasinghe Premadasa. People have reposed

confidence and faith in him. He is a man with a mission and a vision. A man of peace dedicated to usher in a better quality of life for all."

"The nation had faced many challenges during the last four decades and the economic advancements of the people is the most daunting of them."

"Our new President has taken on his shoulders this mammoth responsibility. He is a man of many achievements, tested and accepted. His new visions and thinking will transform the economic structure of the country."

"The programme when launched will radically transform the outlook of the economically less developed persons in our society."

"An economically sound

society is essentially a stable one having no racial, religious or other differences."

"A communal cancer that has eaten into our society can be eliminated by a consistent and an organised economic programme."

"The philosophy is that the people-based development invests primarily in human beings and mobilises their wisdom and skill to the full."

"By directly providing human beings the access to resources they can be transformed from the passive, the inert and the excluded, into productive, creative and progressive beings."

"The programme when launched will radically transform the outlook of the economically less developed persons in our society."

"We, as expatriates will be able to demonstrate to our brethren in Sri Lanka by example, that, economic advancement could be achieved and it will be followed by social cohesion."

"We, living abroad contribute tremendously to the national development in

(Continued on Page 10)

Sri Lanka — a land of infinite variety

Sri Lanka's attractions are the classic assets of a best-seller tourist destination. Located in the warm waters of the Indian Ocean, tropic latitudes ensure a pleasant climate all-year round.

SRI LANKA never fails to fascinate all who visit her shores. Its attraction goes back deep into the roots of its history.

The records of ancient and mediaeval travellers are full of admiring references. Fa-Hsien the Chinese pilgrim monk, on a visit to Sri Lanka in the 5th century AD wrote that... "people of various countries heard how pleasant the land was and flocked to it in numbers." Mediaeval travellers such as Marco Polo and John de Marignoli made glowing tributes to this "finest island in the world," just "40 Italian miles from Paradise."

Sri Lanka's attractions are the classic assets of a best-seller tourist destination. Located in the warm waters of the Indian Ocean, tropic latitudes ensure a pleasant climate year-round. Sunny, golden beaches surround luxuriant tropical lowlands and a beautiful mountain of lofty peaks, green valleys, high waterfalls and mist-hung tea gardens. Elevations reaching over 26,000 metres (8,000') give this petite island a surprising range of climatic variety.

Sri Lanka has a rich and exotic variety of wild life and a long tradition of conservation, rooted in its 2,000 year old Buddhist civilisation. A number of animal and bird sanctuaries make viewing this wild-life wealth convenient for visitors.

History
Sri Lanka's recorded history dates back to the fifth century before Christ, around which time settlements grew up and civilisation began. Buddhism, which was introduced to the island in 247 B.C., became the mainspring of Sri Lanka's civilisation, which flowered around stately cities

such as Anuradhapura, Polonnaruwa and later Kandy.

Masterpieces of architecture, sculpture, art and a superb irrigation system have survived more than 20 centuries for visitors to marvel at today. Among the most remarkable archaeological sites in and around Anuradhapura (mainly Buddhist shrines) are the Thuparama, Ruwanweliseya, Isurumuniya, Abayagiri, Jetawanaramaya, the Brazen Palace, the 2,200-year-old Sacred Bo Tree and the colossal 40 ft. Buddha statue, cut from a rock face at Aukana. At Polonnaruwa masterpieces include the Gal Vihare statues, the Vatadage and the Nissanka Lata Mandapaya, all bearing the 12th century date-stamp.

The Sigiriya Rock Fortress, south-east of Anuradhapura, is famed for its frescoes of beautiful women which date back to the 5th century A.D.

Sited
Kandy, picturesquely sited round an artificial lake, is a cultural sanctuary and was Sri Lanka's last royal capital before the island went totally under British rule in the early 19th century.

Kandy contains many beautiful Buddhist temples dating from the 14th-18th centuries, chief of which is the Dalada Maligawa, which enshrines the Sacred Tooth Relic of the Buddha, an object of the most devout veneration by Buddhists through the ages — Kandy is also the site of Sri Lanka's most spectacular annual pageant — the Esala Perahera, held in July/August to honour the Tooth Relic. This pageant which is held for 10 nights, features hundreds of highland (Kandyan) dancers and drummers, chieftains in traditional dress and scores of

costumed elephants.

A wide range of excellent tourist accommodation is available as well as recreational facilities such as golf (one of Sri Lanka's 2 courses, at Nuwara Eliya, 6200 ft. above sea-level) is considered Asia's finest) trout and deep-sea fishing, sailing, wind-surfing, water-skiing and skin-diving. A wide variety of handicrafts, a well-stocked duty free shopping complex and Sri Lanka's incomparable gems make holiday shopping a memorable experience.



Sri Lankan dancers perform a traditional dance.

Messilah Beach Hotel CATERING WHITE GLOVE SERVICE

A NEW CONCEPT IN HOSPITALITY

Our heartiest greetings to the people of Sri Lanka on the occasion of the National Day

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MUCH MORE

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Sundays: Ladies Day / Ladies receive 50% discount.

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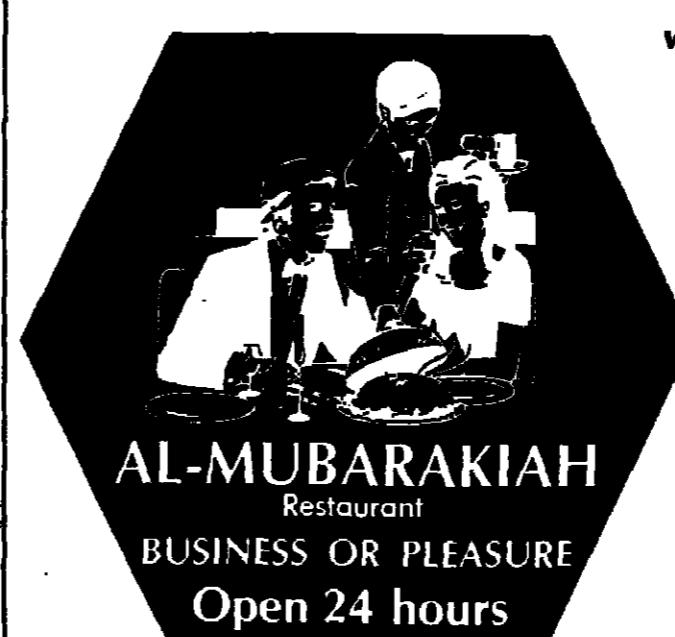
10% discount granted to parties of 8 or more.

Friday Lunch

That SPECIAL MEAL OF THE WEEK!

(Your weekend is incomplete without it!) At KD.4.500, it's a real treat

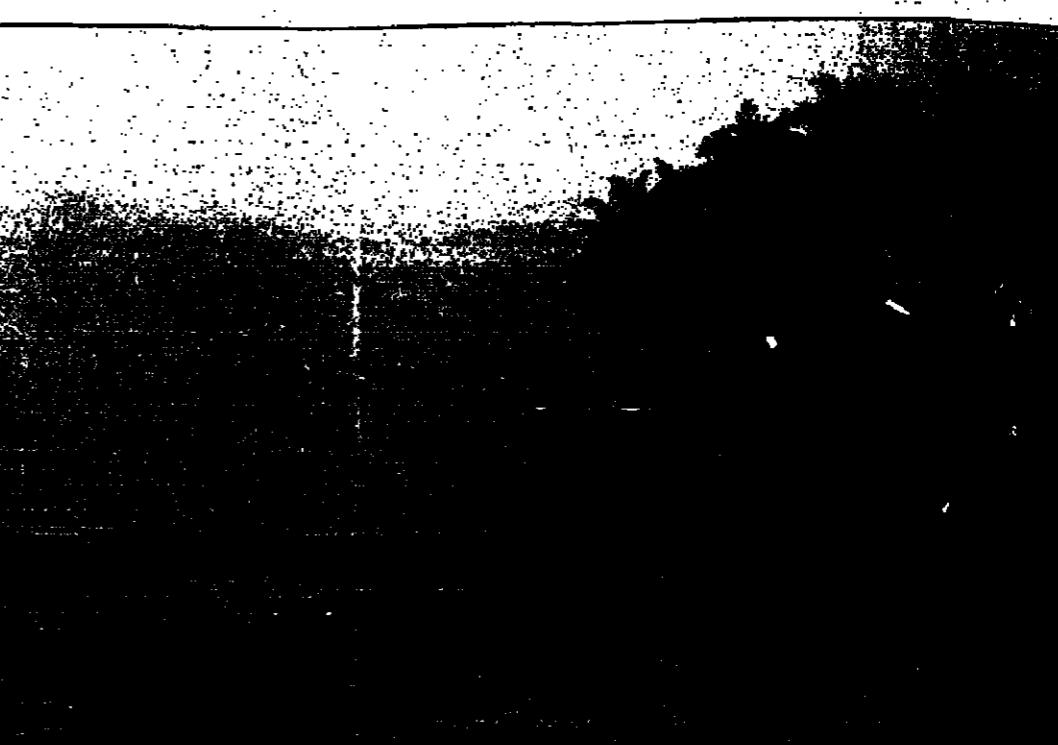
Children half price Soft drinks free!



Messilah Beach Hotel Kuwait
MANAGEMENT: Kuwait Hotels Company S.A.K.



فندق شاطئ مسلاح سلالة الكويت
جدة: شارع الملك عبد الله بن عبد العزیز ٢٠٣



Most of Sri Lanka's reefs and rocky islands teem with colourful and spectacular fish life.

There's more to Sri Lanka than meets the eye A variety of experiences, vistas for underwater enthusiasts

THE beauty of the warm seas that encircle Sri Lanka, currently one of the most popular tourist resorts of the Indian Ocean, is unquestionable. But, as they say, there is more in it than meets the eye...

You must don a mask, snorkel and flippers, and may be a Scuba outfit to enjoy what lies beneath the waves, and Sri Lanka offers a wide variety of experiences and vistas for you and your camera.

Choose the right time; in winter the west and south-west coasts are calm and clear and by March-April, before the southwest monsoon, try to be taken out to the fabulous Great and Little Basses lighthouses from one of the several dive-tour outfits operating with bases in Colombo.

And in summer (we have no off-season to speak of), the east coast is perfect, starting late March and ending in September. Try to avoid July and October, but if you must come then, you can dive, but in a few select spots any dive-tour outfit can guide you.

Bring your swim-trunks or bikinis and if you are a serious diver your special-camera gear. Everything can be rented here and you can buy masks, flippers and snorkel at sports stores in Colombo. Film too, readily available but for specialised work and 16mm movies, it is best to bring your own. Remember that all leading hotels and resorts have a voltage of AC 230, if you need to charge your flashguns.

The accent is now on underwater photography. Most of our

reefs and rocky islands teem with colourful and spectacular fish life. They are found in the corals, rock-reefs and shipwrecks and often in the open waters as well. The delight of any underwater photographer is the Angel Fish — there are three large and four smaller species, and the larger ones, like the bold Blue Ringed Angel are notorious lens-hoggers."

Discouraged

Do not be discouraged by not-too-clear water close to shore. Go some distance away from the land by boat and find yourself in deeper, clearer water. Negombo is one of the resorts which may seem too murky for any kind of diving, but once you rent a light boat and get out to the reefs you'll be surprised.

And in these waters the invertebrates (gorgonians, urchins, sea-cucumbers, molluscs, shrimps, crabs and lobsters) population will amaze you — they also lend themselves well to close-up, or macro photography.

The very best dive-spots on the west coast are over the reefs of Aruppoo and Silavaturai, south of Negombo. These are remote and need some ground-safari facilities organised well in advance. Visit here in March-April for the best conditions. Just South of Kalpitiya is a marvellous coral reef off Kadukkula but here too, it is important to plan well in advance with a dive-tour outfit.

Negombo offers splendid diving but some distance out to see and preferably with scuba to get

to the exciting coral bottom in the ten to twenty metre range. The reef which is about three kilometres west of the main hotel area on the beach is well stocked with beautiful and exciting fishes and invertebrates, ranging from Barracudas (they are quite harmless and excellent eating) to hundreds of Blue Ringed Angels and some unusual starfish.

Colombo's fringing reef may not always be clear enough but for scuba divers, a few reefs from one to four kilometres out at sea, well known to the dive-tour outfit, are astonishingly good. Here you can see big Jackfish and be ogled by the occasional (wary and nervous) big groupers, plus take pictures in forests of whip-coral.

Lovely

Avoid spots where large rivers flow into the sea, like Kalutara, Beruwela and Bentota, but here again, if you can go deep with scuba, there are reefs known to fishermen which team with life.

Ambalangoda and Balapitiya offer fair diving but the place for beginners and veterans alike is Hikkaduwa, a divers' paradise with dozens of spots to stay in and at least three dive-tour outfits in operation during the winter season.

Go by powerboat north or south of Hikkaduwa for some great diving on coral or rock reefs and with several wrecks to explore, photograph and seek scuba.

Galle is a fine centre for diving. Beginners will see fish, corals and unusual invertebrates in the

shallow, clear reefs by the ramparts of the fort, but the real fun is out at sea on wrecks and rocky islands off Gintota and Buona Vista.

Right along this lovely coral coast, up to Welligama and even in Matara there is good diving and for the best results and clearest water try to work from boats.

From Dondra to Tangalle the diving is excellent but only when it is quite calm. Hambantota has a rocky reef and shipwreck about four kilometres away from the beach by the Resthouse, well worth scuba diving.

The Great and Little Basses reefs, on which lighthouses stand, are easily the most exciting diving one can imagine; shipwrecks, innumerable fish including Dogtooth Tunas and tame Groupers, rare shells and spectacular underwater sandstone formations. But be sure to plan well in advance and consult a dive-tour outfit for boats, compressed-air and guide facilities.

On the east coast, let's start from the north end, off Kuchchaveli with its many coral and rock reefs and headlands, then down to Nilaveli, Pigeon Island and superb beach-hotels with all diving facilities at hand. Trincomalee, a lovely big harbour and dozens of rock reefs, headlands and islands to dive around, several wrecks, some ancient and even rock inscriptions to decipher with a mask on!

You never know what to expect on a deep dive off Trincomalee harbour and Foul Point. A Portuguese wreck, a males.

There are about 50,000 Sri Lankan women employed in various sectors including professional, administrative, technical and vocational fields. But the overwhelming majority of women are engaged in unskilled employments.

They provide services such as cleaning and domestic help. Cleaning workers are employed by service companies and enjoy better privileges than their counterparts in domestic services.

The largest proportion of the Sri Lankan labour force in Kuwait is in the domestic sector. Their terms and conditions are singularly determined by the attitudes, temperaments and dispositions of the employers. This has eventually led to good as well as bad results. It is an irony that good results are less noticed than the bad.

The Sri Lankan Embassy in Kuwait tries to minimise the bad results of domestic employment by amicably settling the disputes between the housemaids and their employers.

The co-operation and assistance ungrudgingly received from the employers and government authorities in Kuwait in settling these disputes are very much appreciated and the Sri Lankan Embassy looks forward for this co-operation and assistance in future.

expression of the devotion of the Sinhala people, to religion and art.

The Temple of the Tooth which was constructed during the reign of King Keerthi Sri Rajasinghe (1747-1829), represents the traditional architectural expression of a multi-storey building including nearly all motifs found in our art tradition.

Stone work of this magnificent building is confined to the ground floor, while fine timber columns in the upper floor and extraordinary ivory work, fascinating metal work like brass and silver sheets embossed with "Liyavela," "Palspathi," etc., speak volumes for the artistic skills of the Sinhala people.

(Courtesy — The Taprobane)

Giant Grouper, a very rare Glory-of-India conch shell, a hundred or more Banner fish circling you, just begging to be photographed.

An extended boat trip from Trincomalee south to Kalknadh can turn out to be a few days of sheer joy and excitement, diving over reefs which are little known. Off Kalknadh and Passekudah are many coral reefs and two wrecks.

Sights

The Ultimate Dive, (and, for only the best-trained and equipped please) is a visit to the wreck of the carrier "Hermes" sunk in 1942 and now one of the world's most amazing underwater sights.

Huge groupers over the two hundred kilo mark, schools of Barracuda, dense shoals of Snapper and immense Jackfish team in this 60 metre deep Fish Factory.

Off Batticaloa, and south of this quaint town are innumerable coral reefs right up to Tirukkaval. But dives to these places must be organised well in advance to get the necessary

guides, boats, compressed-air and accommodation worked out.

Underwater Sri Lanka — where it is always warm, exciting and friendly!

Accommodation: Excellent hotel facilities for divers and underwater enthusiasts are available on the west coast at Negombo, Colombo, Beruwela, Bentota, Ambalangoda, Hikkaduwa, Galle, Koggala, Matara and Tangalle.

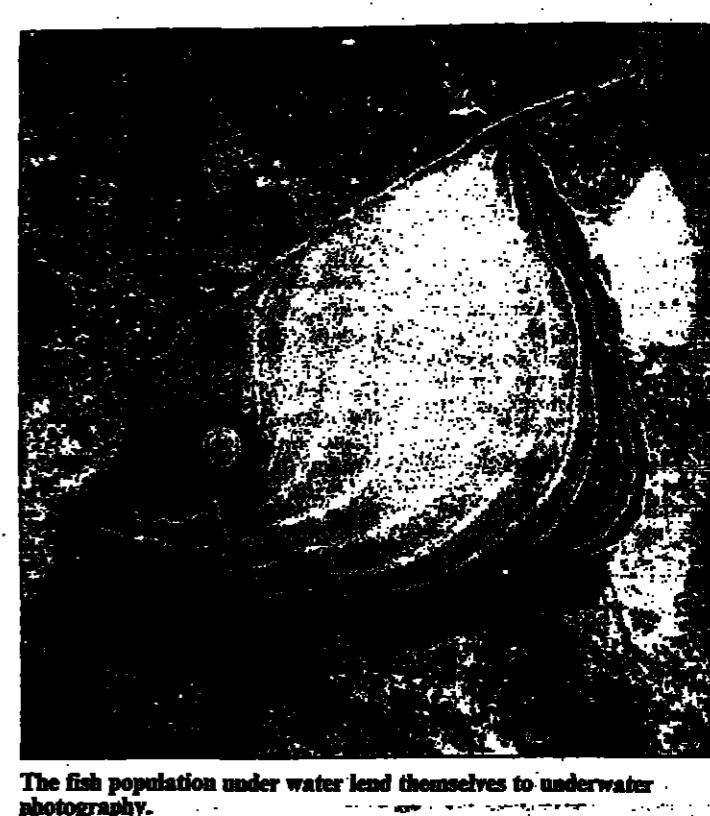
The Great Basses and Little Basses can be reached from hotels in Amaduwa, within the Yala National Park and from Tissamaharama and Wirawala.

On the east coast, hotel accommodation is excellent in Passekudah, Trincomalee and Nilaveli.

Special diving facilities:

Air tanks and re-fills can be rented in Colombo, Hikkaduwa and Koggala for diving on the west coast, and in Passekudah and Nilaveli, Uppuvelli and Trincomalee on the east coast.

The only re-compression chamber in Sri Lanka is owned by the Sri Lanka Navy at Fort Ostenburg, Trincomalee.



The fish population under water lend themselves to underwater photography.

Sri Lankan workers an invaluable asset

Sri Lankan manpower has contributed in no small way to the development activities of the Gulf countries during the last 15 years. In Kuwait alone, the Sri Lankan work-force is estimated to be about 75,000.

with knowledge and skills of employment required for the country and the outside world where such knowledge and skills are scarce.

Ethnic, religious and cultural plurality of the country have instilled in the Sri Lankans an ability to live in diversity while ascertaining individuality.

Adjustability and adaptability inherent in them have placed them in foreign employments without causing much inconvenience to them and the environment in which they work.

A working knowledge of a foreign language has increased their employability in labour markets outside the national frontiers.

The knack for grasping technological intricacies combined with agility of manipulative skills have

equipped the Sri Lankans adequately to successfully face the challenges of foreign labour markets.

Sri Lankan manpower has contributed in no small way to the development activities of the Gulf countries during the last one and a half decades. Sri Lankan skills have been utilised in professional, administrative, technical and vocational field where such skills were needed. At present in Kuwait alone the Sri Lankan work force is estimated to be close upon 75,000.

They are deployed in government ministries, commercial, industrial and services establishments, and personal and domestic services. One of the peculiarities of the Sri Lankan labour in Kuwait is the preponderance of females over

expression of the devotion of the Sinhala people, to religion and art.

The Temple of the Tooth which was constructed during the reign of King Keerthi Sri Rajasinghe (1747-1829), represents the traditional architectural expression of a multi-storey building including nearly all motifs found in our art tradition.

Stone work of this magnificent building is confined to the ground floor, while fine timber columns in the upper floor and extraordinary ivory work, fascinating metal work like brass and silver sheets embossed with "Liyavela," "Palspathi," etc., speak volumes for the artistic skills of the Sinhala people.

(Courtesy — The Taprobane)

A centre of monuments and shrines

significant buildings in Sri Lanka today.

Kandy, a capital in the 17th century and seat of much of Lanka's culture, fell when the last King of Kandy, Sri Wickrama Rajasinghe, was captured by the British in 1815.

This charming hill capital with its hills and valleys, rivers, beautiful lakes and cascading waterfalls, has a fascinating share of hallowed and living shrines in the many temples, and around the city.

This glorious city is a centre of living monuments and shrines from Lanka's recent history and rituals and practices dating back nearly 2000 years still go on within. The modern Kandy

which has incorporated the medieval remains continued to grow as a vibrant centre of art, architecture, religion and culture.

The UNESCO-Sri Lanka Project of the Cultural Triangle has launched an aggressive work plan to revive the previous cultural heritage of Sri Lanka and Kandy being one of the sites included in the programme, has received tremendous attention, where maintenance, renovation and improvements have taken place in a big way.

Of the 15 million people who constitute the population of this country, 67 per cent are Buddhist, and the grandeur of the Temple of the Sacred Tooth is an

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Exotic flora and fauna, unhampered by humans

THROUGHOUT the long ages of Sri Lanka's history, much of the island's natural richness has been allowed to exist unhampered by man's activities. It is a little known fact that Sri Lanka can boast of the world's first wildlife sanctuary, dating from the 3rd century B.C. created by King Devanampiyatissa in whose reign Buddhism was introduced into Sri Lanka.

Succeeding kings continued to uphold the hallowed Buddhist precept of forbidding man to kill any form of life as is recorded on the many rock inscriptions found throughout the country.

The ancient kings were also aware of the importance of forests. Large tracts termed "Thahanan Kalle" (Forbidden Forests) were set aside as reserves, and "Wanathas" (Wilderness areas) were protected as pest control areas, watersheds etc. Some of these ancient reserves exist even today — e.g. Udawattakelle Reserve in Kandy, and the Sinharaja Rain Forest Reserve.

The peak of butterflies

To the naturalist, Sri Lanka offers a tantalising array of interesting and unique forms. Of the fauna, of special interest are the butterflies. Of the 242 known species, most are found in the regions of the lower foothills (i.e. upto 3000 ft.) A few — six species — can be glimpsed above 4,000 ft.

A most spectacular scene is the seasonal migration of butterflies during March and April, when tradition has it they fly towards "Sumanala Kande" (Butterfly Peak), the local name for the mountain more famous as "Sri Pada" or "Adams Peak."

Fishes and frogs

All major groups of vertebrates are found here, most endemic to the island, especially the amphibians and the reptiles. Most of the 54 species of fish are marsh and river dwelling fishes, the 14 endemic species being restricted to the perennial streams of the wet zone.

They are beautiful aquarium fish of the carpenter group. The



The abundance of Sri Lanka's birdlife makes it an ornithologist's paradise.

British introduced 16 species into the island, including the trout found today in the clear cold streams of Horton Plains.

Of the 38 species of amphibia found here, 16 are unique to the island. One endemic genus, the namphyphry, with three species, is common in the hill country. This frog lives on rock ledges covered by a continuous trickle of water and the tadpoles share this habitat. None of the amphibians are poisonous to man.

The island abounds with many

reptiles, of which 75 are endemic. Of the two endemic species of crocodile, the commonest is the marsh crocodile. The beautiful star tortoise is the only land tortoise. All five species of turtle are protected by law. Only five of the 83 species of snakes are lethal, these being the cobra, the Russell's viper, the Indian krait, the Ceylon krait and the saw-scaled viper, and are rarely found in the built-up areas of city or village.

The abundance of Sri Lanka's birdlife makes it an ornithologist's paradise. Of the 427 recorded

A diversity of mammals

Of the 86 species of mammals, pride of place goes to the majestic elephant. Although rapid destruction of its habitat has depleted our elephant population, sizeable numbers can be seen in the Gal Oya and Lahugala National Parks. Extinction also threatens the island's biggest cat, the leopard, although Wilpattu National Park is justifiably proud of its leopard population. Many species of deer, the spotted deer, the sambur, the hog deer, the mouse deer, can also be seen in the parks. Other mammalian fauna include the sloth bear, the protected dugong, the wild boar, the



To the naturalist, Sri Lanka offers a tantalising array of interesting and unique forms.

porcupine, and monkeys, especially the grey langur, and the endemic macaque are common throughout Sri Lanka. Of special interest is the endemic purple-faced leaf monkey; the shaggy bear monkey found in the higher hill regions, being a subspecies of this race.

Exotic flora — infinite in Variety

To the botanist, this is indeed a land of plenty. In the country where the oldest living tree in documented history, the sacred Bo tree at Anuradhapura still flourishes and is venerated, every plant is of value to the native physician as a curative.

From March to May

numerous flowering trees such as

the fiery pionciana regia, the white medua ferrea, the cherry blossom like tabebuia rosea

burst into bloom. Flowering

orchids including endemic varieties such as the protected daffodil and vesak orchids are widespread throughout the island.

Sri Lanka is famed through the ages for its spices and aromatics

— cinnamon, cloves, nutmeg,

pepper, vanilla, cardamom and

citronella which grow abundantly in the wet zone lowlands and hills. Valuable timber trees

include ebony, teak, satinwood,

jak and mila.

Tropical fruits are found in abundance and include pineap-

ple, mango, bananas, papaya,

mangosteen, an avocado-pear,

durian, grapefruit, orange, lime,

lemon and passion-fruit.

Sri Lanka has three fine

botanic gardens at Peradeniya, Hakgala (5,000 ft. above sea

level, sub-tropical and temperate

flora) and Gampaha.

Two government bodies are



An ancient tree in a 'forbidden forest' and (inset) an amphibian.



Entry is not restricted and visitors can move about freely.

Of the man and biosphere reserves, the most important is the Sinharaja Rain Forest Reserve, the last remaining patch of virgin rain forest and the largest single repository of the island's endemic fauna and flora. Entry here is only via permits issued by the Forest Dept Head Office in Colombo.

Protected Species: The law protects certain endangered species of flora (the baobab tree, certain species of orchids, ferns etc.) and fauna. Export, in fact even possession of these species as well as of live animals, birds, reptiles etc. is illegal. Please also remember that production and sale of items made from wild animals and reptiles e.g. leopard skins, crocodile skins, elephant tusks etc. is illegal.

entrusted with the protection and conservation of these natural riches. The Department of Wild Life Conservation which manages national parks (at Wilpattu, Yala, Gal Oya, Kumana, Wirawila and Uda Walawe) and the Department of Forest Conservation which is entrusted with Forest and Man and Biosphere Reserves.

Important

Inside the parks, animals have the right of way and visitors are not permitted to alight from vehicles or disturb animals or birds. Reservation of accommodation available within the parks should be made at Department of Wild Life Conservation, Zoological Gardens, Dehiwela.

The most important natural reserves are the Horton Plains, the Knuckles Range of hills and the Peak Wilderness Sanctuary.

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New marketing strategies, products to meet the challenge of the '90s

Satisfying a global thirst for Sri Lankan tea

By Dr R.L. de Silva,
Director-General,
Sri Lanka Tea Board

UNTIL the end of the seventies, Sri Lanka marketed most of her tea at two major auction centres, Colombo and London, as she had done for several years previously.

In 1979, 188 million kilogrammes of tea were sold at the Colombo auction and 10 million kilogrammes at the London auction. The wide range of teas produced in Sri Lanka afford ample opportunities for the preparation of blends made up to various quality standards and prices.

At the beginning of the decade, Sri Lanka had acquired considerable skill in preparation of bulk blends. A fair proportion of Ceylon tea was exported as bulk blends with proportionately less tea going out in the form of 'straight lines' or unblended teas.

Logic

The logic of selling teas at the London auction began to be questioned. No producers in the private sector, which had its factories mainly in the mid-country and the low-country sold their tea at the London auction. Only the state sector channelled some tea to London.

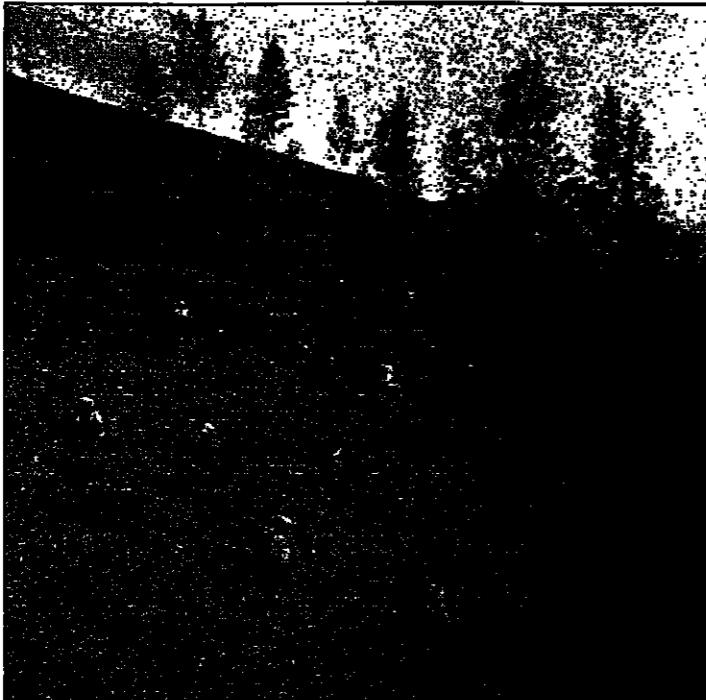
The private sector in the low-country produces teas largely unsuitable for the British market and more suited to markets in the Middle East.

In 1979, only 5.2 per cent of the tea sold in London came from Sri Lanka. In 1985, Sri Lanka sold only 2.9 million kilogrammes of tea at the London auction as against 197.2 million kilogrammes sold through Colombo. A small quantity was also marketed through the off-shore auction, which was part of the London auction system.

Exported

By the end of the 1970s, Sri Lanka had firmly established for herself a market for teas packed in Sri Lanka and exported to the Middle East. Her major customers for packed teas were Saudi Arabia, Libya, Egypt, Kuwait, Jordan, Iraq and North Yemen.

The export of packed teas



Tea picking on a hill slope.

from Sri Lanka had reached a very satisfactory position although a slight drop in exports was recorded in 1979 by which time about 20 million kilogrammes of tea were exported from Sri Lanka in consumer packets.

In 1980, the Sri Lanka Tea Board appointed a high-powered committee consisting of representatives from the Ministries of Plantation Industries, of Trade and Shipping and of Finance and Planning, together with the chairman of Export Development Board, the director of commerce and some members from the private sector to recommend strategies for the marketing and promotion of Ceylon tea.

Corner-stone

The committee recommended a long-term strategy, the cornerstone of which was the securing of added-value by vertical product diversification, through which increased earnings could be obtained by presenting tea to the market in consumer packs packed in Sri Lanka.

A wide range of incentives were evolved to encourage the export of pre-packed teas. Among these incentives were the following:

i) A reduction in the export

duty

ii) A rebate to compensate for export duty paid on packaging materials

iii) The export expansion grant of the Export Development Board.

Another feature of the tea industry in Sri Lanka at the end of the seventies was that Sri Lanka's exports of tea bags, the growth sector of the market, were negligible and amounted to a paltry 1.25 metric tons.

Responding to the new incentives, including the lump sum depreciation permitted on capital investment on tea bagging machines, Sri Lanka rapidly increased her tea bagging capacity and exports of tea bags at the end of 1983 stood at 2,125 tons fetching Rs 99.68 per kilogramme of the average F.O.B. compared with Rs 56.47 as the average price for bulk tea F.O.B.

Significant

It is significant to note that tea bags from Sri Lanka found their way not merely to markets in the Middle East but into some very sophisticated markets like Australia, France and the United Kingdom. The growth sector in consumer markets are tea bags

and further assistance is planned for exporters of tea bags for the future.

In the tea bag export business, Sri Lanka has some advantages and disadvantages. The major disadvantage we face is that tea bags occupy a large volume compared with the bulk tea and tea in packets. Shipping tea in bags therefore become an expensive business.

Competitiveness in freight rates is therefore essential if Sri Lanka's tea bag exports are to be a success. There can be no hidden subsidies to shipping lines or other products to be borne by tea bag exports. Lack of resources for more promotion of Sri Lanka's own brands is a further constraint.

Together with the expansion of Sri Lanka's tea bag export business has developed a further diversification of the tea product in the form of tea processed by the Crush, Tear and Curl (CTC) method and also tea processed with the Lipton Tea Processor (LTP).

These teas produce thick liquors favoured by tea bag producers and consumers. In CTC and LTP teas from other origins, quality, such as that which Ceylon tea is famous for, has not been noticed. In Ceylon teas, produced by the CTC or LTP process, however, a more encouraging feature has been the appearance of the 'Ceylon character and quality' in addition to the liquor properties observed in CTC teas from other origins.

Seasonal

This feature is likely to prove an important attraction for Ceylon CTC teas in the future. Every effort is therefore being made to refine production techniques in order to realise the fullest potential form CTC and LTP teas produced in Sri Lanka. Tea bag manufacturers in Sri Lanka have been quick to recognise the potential of Ceylon CTC/LTP teas and have paid premium prices for such products.

Sri Lanka has her famous seasonal teas from Uva, Dimbulla and Nuwara Eliya together with a wide range of orthodox teas available for blending. More

and more CTC and LTP teas will also be available to provide further scope for blending.

Despite the range of teas available in Sri Lanka, if any blenders wishes to have special foreign teas for blending the import of such teas for blending and re-export is permitted. With the rapid development of shipping infrastructure in Sri Lanka, it could be said that no other country provides such convenient facilities and opportunities for tea blending, trading and export.

Teas packed in Sri Lanka will naturally be fresher than those packed in foreign countries assuming that the standard precautions for keeping teas fresh will be observed by blenders/packers.

Satisfactory

By the middle of the eighties, Sri Lanka's performance in the export of tea in consumer packs had reached a very satisfactory position. Sri Lanka exported 56 million kg of tea in packets and two million kg of tea in bags at average F.O.B. prices of Rs 68 and Rs 100 respectively. In comparison, the average bulk tea price of Rs 56 for the year 1983. Sri Lanka's exports of value-added tea had exceeded those of all other producing countries put together. One quarter of all tea produced in value-added form in 1983.

Sri Lanka continues with her policy of horizontal product diversification. We now have two factories producing green tea, one factory producing instant tea and one factory producing herbal tea. In addition, several exporters are exporting scented teas with flavours of fruits, flowers, spices and other exotic scents.

It is proposed to expand this sector of the industry further during the remaining years of the decade. Sri Lanka produces essential oils from a wide range of plants. These oils could be used to impart exotic flavours to teas. The most popular ones are mint, jasmine, cardamom, ginger, clove, cinnamon, mango, rose, lemon and orange flavoured teas.

It is hoped that this decade will



A tea plantation in Sri Lanka.

see further developments in horizontal product diversification by the production of newer and better types of instant tea and the entry of tea based drinks into the soft drinks and alcoholic beverage market. Although tea drinks of an acceptable standard have already been produced on a laboratory scale further development is necessary before commercial exploitation is possible.

(Continued from Page 7)

Sri Lanka while demonstrating that we are a united expatriate group. This itself is enough example for those living back at home.

"I am personally proud to have been the Ambassador of Sri Lanka in Kuwait, the Ambassador of a united community who has contributed vastly to the national development of our motherland.

"I am confident that our Sri Lankans living in Kuwait undoubtedly will continue in the furtherance of these achievements and contribute specifically to the new programmes launched to uplift the human resources in Sri Lanka.

"In short what is expected from us abroad is to "invest in the domestic production

Hopefully, the end of the decade will see more new products from Sri Lanka to add to the variety of products now exported by the tea industry. These could include semi-fermented teas and more products in the ice-cold tea range. We can look back with satisfaction on the industry's performance during the first half of the 1980s. The rest of the decade will certainly see more

improvement, more product diversity and further refinements in packaging and methods of presentation of tea products to the world market. All this would mean that we export less tea as a commodity and hedge against all the disadvantages that commodities face. We shall also be moving closer to the consumers and provide them with more and still better products.

Economic advancement by social cohesion

"This relationship has immeasurable effects on the close links between the two countries. I hope and pray that friendly bonds will be enhanced with the passing of years.

"In these endeavours the role of the excellent relations between Sri Lanka and the government and the people of the State of Kuwait on this happy occasion, I also take this opportunity to greet my countrymen and wish them all success."

Message of
Abdul Qader Hamid
Mohamed,
Ambassador of Sri Lanka

NOEL

process without utilising our economic capabilities on consumerism."

"Our participation in the overall programme is welcome and the mode of participation will be known to us in due course.

"In these endeavours the role of the excellent relations between Sri Lanka and the government and the people of the State of Kuwait on this happy occasion, I also take this opportunity to greet my countrymen and wish them all success."

The Sri Lankans in Kuwait have worked and are working for the betterment of the national life of Kuwait and reciprocally the Kuwaiti government and the people consider the Sri Lankans as good friends.



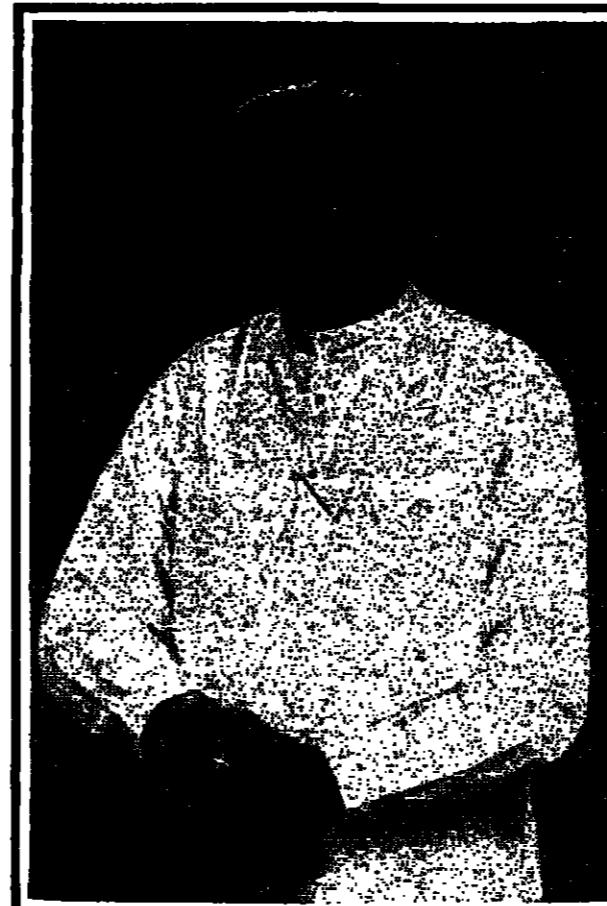
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Heartiest Greetings and
Best Wishes to

His Excellency
R. PREMADASA
President of Sri Lanka

and the people of Sri Lanka
on the occasion of the

**41st Independence Day of
Sri Lanka**



SRI LANKA lies surrounded by the Indian Ocean, not far from the equator, petite and beautiful. The island's topography is simple — the mountains are massed in the centre, scaling over 2,500 metres and the plains spread all around. The rivers stream out radially from the mountains into the sea.

Latitude, altitude and the monsoons dictate the climate. In the southwest lowlands, exposed to the broadside of the southwest monsoon, the climate is truly tropical and the temperature rarely drops below 27°C.

The rest of the plains, called the dry zone, is even warmer. On the windward slopes of the mountains, the temperature belie the island's tropical location. May, June and July are the wettest months in the southwest, and December and January receive the most rains in the north and east.

February and March are as a rule dry months all over the island.

Variety

The variety of crops grown in Sri Lanka is an indication of the range of climates here. Rice, the main food crop, is grown in the valleys, on the terraced hillsides, and in the dry zone where irrigation methods, some recent and

Tropical paradise for tourists

some many centuries old, help out the insufficient rain.

Sri Lanka has been growing the "teas with the golden taste" for more than a hundred years now and the reputation established has been so good that "Ceylon" (the old man for Sri Lanka) has become the superlative adjective for tea. Rubber is also grown in quantities, mainly in the southwest hills, and on the coastal belts, grow coconut and palmfronds.

A great many tropical fruits — among them pineapples, mangoes and papaya, exotic species, like clove, cardamom, cinnamon, nutmeg and pepper and even apples, pears and strawberries, all do well here.

From ancient times, Sri Lanka has been famed for gems, chiefly in the southwest around Ratnapura, so aptly called "the City Gems". It is noted with justifiable pride that the largest sapphire and the largest cat's-eye ever found were mined in Sri Lanka.

Sapphires and cat's-eyes apart, alexandrite, zircon, amethyst, topaz, aquamarine, tourmaline and the pretty cloudy moonstone, almost

unique to Sri Lanka, are found here.

Sri Lanka's history dates back to pre-Christian times, to the fifth century before Christ, when Prince Vijaya, exiled from North India, landed on these shores and settlements grew up and a civilised way of life began. In 247 B.C., the introduction of Buddhism led to a dynamic enlivening of language, literature, art, architecture and sculpture, and a higher and nobler civilisation began to blossom around the great city of Anuradhapura.

The new religion was patronised by the Sinhalese kings, and many beautiful and impressive shrines were built in its name. The city was also adorned with splendid palaces and parks and a fine system of irrigation work, but was later abandoned due to intermittent South Indian invasions.

Polonnaruwa, successor to Anuradhapura as capital, reached the peak of its glory in the 12th century but also fell prey to invasion and was abandoned in favour of Dambadeniya, which in turn gave way to Yapahuwa,

Kurunegala, Gampola and Kotte.

In 1505, the Portuguese arrived, more by accident than design, and stayed on — at first to trade in spices and afterwards to rule the maritime district. The Dutch came too, lured by pepper, cinnamon, and other aromatics — displaced the Portuguese and established themselves.

In 1815 the whole of Sri Lanka passed under British rule. In 1948, after nearly 4 1/2 centuries of foreign rule, Sri Lanka became an independent state once again.

Beautiful

Sri Lanka's population of over 15 million is ethnically varied and diverse — Sinhala, Tamil, Moor Malay and 'Burghers' of Portuguese and Dutch descent.

Sri Lanka is a superb vacation land. The beaches are sunny, picturesque and fringed by warm, pure seas. Mount Lavinia near Colombo, Hikkaduwa on the south coast with its beautiful coral reef, Bentota, Koggala, Ahungalle, Tangalle and Hambantota,

also in the south and Negombo north of Colombo are some of the best.

Landscape is exceptionally beautiful — lush plains and mountain views, some univalued anywhere in the world as at the Ella Gap, spectacular waterfalls, including Diyaluma, the sixth highest in the world, and tranquil lakelet.

Sri Lanka's ancient civilisation offers unique sightseeing to visitors.

Anuradhapura, as old as Sri Lanka's recorded history has a host of interesting ruins, — some dating back to the 3rd century B.C. At Sigiriya, southeast of Anuradhapura is the fifth century "Fortress in the sky" of the parodic king, Kasayapa, where are found the beautiful frescoes known the world over — ancient artistry that glows with colour even 1,500 years after. Further south the ancient rock temple in Dambulla also contains colourful wall paints.

Polonnaruwa, Sri Lanka's mediaeval capital still preserves an aura of past glory in its ornate buildings. Major UNESCO-sponsored

conservation work is being carried out in all three ancient cities.

Kandy, the picturesque old hill capital has many attractions — among them, the 18th century Dalada Maligawa (Temple of the Sacred Tooth Relic) and a number of other 18th century temples. Also in Kandy is a magnificent pageant, the Esala Perahera, held in late July or early August to pay homage to the Sacred Tooth Relic. Kandyans chiefs in all their pomp and splendour, fancy-dressed elephants and Kandyans dancers take part.

Sri Lanka is well endowed with wild life — elephant, leopard, sambhar, bear and a fascinating variety of birds including golden oriole, kingfisher, woodpecker, peafowl, heron, painted stork, egret and spoonbill. For convenient viewing there are a number of wild life and bird sanctuaries.

Sri Lanka's capital, Colombo, is a colourful mixture of East and West and colonial and modern — where you can do all your shopping on the pavement and have your palms read by street astrologers for a song or shop in air-conditioned comfort in modern department stores.

Historians and archaeologists puzzled for 160 years

By Tilak Ratnakara,

THIS status has remained an enigma, puzzling historians and archaeologists for over 160 years...

However if a hundred and sixty years or so ago somebody who knew enough of the local language, Sinhala, had asked some pertinent questions about this 'statue' from the poverty stricken villagers who loathe to leave their ancestral homes baited with their ancestors for centuries the evil jungle, at least then those ancients would have given sufficient clues for a historical identification of this beautiful and wondrous work of art.

Historians are of course loathe to give credence to traditions, but traditions deep root in the psyche of a people always help in cracking the past. Without reference to deep-rooted traditions history would be the poorer and more pedestrian than now and of course more subject to the individual idiosyncrasies of historians including their, at times, special pleading.

Or in the alternative if a King or a Minister of yore had wanted, like Ozymandias, to immortalise himself by getting an inscription carved on a stone slab giving some clue to the identity of the Statue then there would have been no enigma.

Unfortunately all these were not to be. For after a thousand years since this colossus of a statue was sculpted and several hundred years later the jungle tide took it into its bosom, the statue remains an enigma.

On the 28th of June 1820,

barely two years after the people revolted against the British administration, Lieutenant Fagan of "His Majesty's Second Ceylon Regiment" lost his way in the jungle north west of Batticaloa from where he had started his march.

According to the published journal kept by Fagan he and his detachment stumbled on an old ruined city hidden by the jungle. This was the ancient city of Polonnaruwa which the villagers identified as Topavewa.

This half ruined tank hemmed in by the jungle was a part of the Parakrama Samudra, the Sea of Parakrama built by Parakrama Bahu the Great (1153 - 86 A.C.) combining Erabuduvewa, Dambatuluvewa, and Topavewa.

Enigma

A short distance away from the bank of the Sea of Parakrama this enigma is sited. It is none other than what the popular legend and belief has named the statue of Parakrama Bahu the Great.

This colossus of a statue carved on the site of a granite boulder and facing the ruins of what is popularly known as the Potgul Vehera ("where books are kept") or the "residence of the books" is considered a masterpiece of sculpting and popular tradition as mentioned earlier, claims it to be that of Parakrama Bahu the Great.

However this tradition is questioned by historians and archaeologists. H.C.P. Bell one of the earliest of British administrators who presided over the destinies of the Department of

Archaeology spoke thus of this Statue in the Sessional Paper XX of 1910.

"About a hundred yards east of the bund of Topavewa is a rock outcrop upon which stands a boulder now only 20 feet in length. A small shallow cave may have existed under its east side which overhangs....

"Finally, this face of the boulder was smoothed perpendicularly, leaving wall of rock 24 feet wide at bottom, but nowhere more than 11 feet 2 inches in height. At the middle of this surface was sculpted an erick figure, nearly in the full round, standing out from a counter-sunk background 8 feet 4 inches in width.

"This statue remains unidentified....

"Of neither King nor Buddhist abbot is the rock figure the lithic representation. Clearly it is the representation in granite, perhaps exactly twice life size, of some once famous Hindu guru"

The figure fronts nearly south, perhaps south east. The right leg is slightly bent and the loin cloth hangs down up to the ankles, held by a belt with the end of the cloth tied down in front with folds hanging down front. The statue is bare bodied and there is a hint of a sacred thread up along the left shoulder. The head is covered by a makuta or tall cap or perhaps even locks of long matted hair braided up to give a very sage-like appearance.

There are very few adornments on the head whilst a lengthy rounded beard with drooping moustache and a tuft below the lower lips add to the venerableness of the figure. The eyes are half closed and they look down on what looks like a bound sheaf of ola leaves held in the hands raised up from the elbows. The sheaf of ola leaves droops down at the middle. There is a slight protrusion of the abdomen perhaps a sign of old age.

The figure resembles that of a sage rather than a king. If so who was this sage and what connection had he with Polonnaruwa, the Sea of Parakrama or the Potgul Vehera?

The historians V.A. Smith, and H.C.P. Bell have suggested that the statue represents an ascetic named Kapila for whom Parakrama Bahu built a richly adorned dwelling, according to written tradition in the Lesser Chronicle, the Chulavamsa.

In 1910 Ananda K. Coomaraswamy basing himself

on the absence of jewellery, the simplicity of dress and the matted locks posed the question whether this statue was not that of the Saiva Saint Manikka Vacagar.

added: "less probable (but in accordance with tradition) Parakrama Bahu the Great."

Later in 1925 European authorities who visited Sri Lanka were so intrigued by the riddle of this statue that after enquiries they posed the question whether this statue was not that of the Great Rishi Agastya.

However the Rishi Agastya, venerated by the southern Hindus, is said to be a Rishi from the North an Aryan who became a Saiva Saint. Adored of Siva, Siva's Consort Parvati and son Skanda. He is said to be or to have been transformed into a pot bellied dwarf always "setting forth" a homeless wanderer carrying in one hand the Kamanduka the ubiquitous water bowl and the Hindu rosary, which facts do not agree with this statue."

Defence

Now the statue has four names ascribed to it. Saint Manikka Vacagar, the Great King Parakrama Bahu, the Sage Kapila and the Sage Agastya.

In defence of the statue being that of Parakrama Bahu it is said that in keeping with ancient traditions ageing Kings may have, whilst keeping their title, become religious recluses and thus this statue could well be that of Parakrama Bahu the Great in his old age.

It is also being suggested that what the statue holds in its hands is not a sheaf of Ola leaves but a yoke, an inverted one at that to represent his continued Kingship.

This is a tenuous argument for the King, if he be the King, has inverted his yoke, the symbol of Kingship!

In defence of the proposition that the statue is that of Rishi Kapila it is said that the Potgul Vehera is in fact the Kapila Vehera and that the Lesser Chronicle the Chulavamsa, the Isigiliya Sutta one of the Buddhist Suttas or sermons specifically mentions a rock from where Rishis or Pacceka Buddhas vanished from the human eye in the aeons before the birth of Prince Siddhartha, the Buddha to be. There is thus a supposition that there were Buddhist Sages or Rishis not all of whom were Buddhist monks or Arahats.

Tradition

Here it must be stated that the ancient records of traditional Sinhala medicine refers to a number of Sages or Rishis like Pulathisi, Kapila and the like who authored a large number of medical works.

There are also place names still extant in Sri Lanka such as Isimbessaga "the rock from which the Rishis got down" which gives some support to the Kapila Rishi.

The enigma thus remains. It will continue to remain so, unless strong evidence is found to establish its identity.

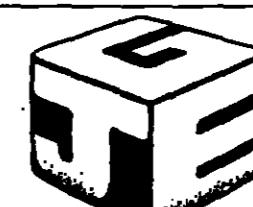
Till then the giant statue, a beautiful work of art will stand in rain and shine, hard by the Eastern bank of Parakrama Samudra.

It may or may not be the figure of the Saint Manikka Vacagar or Parakrama Bahu the Great or Vijayabahu the First or the Sage Agastya or the Sage Kapila or the Sage Pulathisi or Pulasthini who is represented in this work of art. The grandeur of this piece of sculpture thus begets an enigma, which will remain an enigma perhaps for ever.

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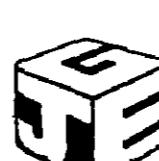
The mystery statue which stands beside Parakrama Samudra.



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Film capital cashing in on twin trend

Hollywood sees dollars in doubles

By Ivor Davis

HOLLYWOOD is seeing double — and making it pay handsomely.

The film capital is cashing in on the twin trend with three recently released films: *Big Business*, starring Bette Midler and Lily Tomlin; *Dead Ringers*, with Jeremy Irons; and *Twins*, featuring Danny DeVito and Arnold Schwarzenegger.

Twins — especially identical ones — have always fascinated filmmakers. The subject became material for dramas, including *The Dark Mirror* (1946), starring Olivia de Havilland playing twin sisters — one a psychotic killer and the other an innocent; high-camp adventures such as *Dead Ringer* (1964) in which Bette Davis portrays twin sisters bearing a long-time grudge over a man; and comedies such as *The Parent Trap* (1961) with Hayley Mills as twins who have never met until their divorced parents send them to the same summer camp.

Add to that list movies featuring look-alike who are not related — *The Prisoner of Zenda* (1937, with remakes in '52 and '79) and *The Prince and the Pauper* (1937, remade in 1976 as *Crossed Swords*) — and it becomes obvious that Hollywood has used the twin concept as a tried-and-true formula good for dusting off every decade or so.

Here we go again. Maybe it was the fascinating research on twins separated at birth coming



Jeremy Irons (left and right) in Twins,

out of the University of Minnesota at Minneapolis in 1988 that revived the recent interest in twin movies. According to findings at the university, twins who had not seen each other since birth were found to dress alike, enjoy the same hobbies and have wives, husbands and children with the same first names. Such startling proof that biology is destiny was too much for Hollywood to ignore.

Films focusing on the twin theme began resurfacing in 1987 with the release of *Making Mr. Right* (1987) in which a nerd scientist (John Malkovich) creates a nearly human android in his own image. Then came *Dominick and Eugene* (1988), the story of a bright young intern (Ray Liotta) and his devotion to a childlike twin brother (Tom

Hulce). But not until late last year did *Tinseltown* release a deluge of twin movies.

Midler and Tomlin play not one but two sets of identical twins accidentally switched at birth in *Big Business*. Audiences had already stopped laughing at their antics when Canadian director David Cronenberg, whose special effects in such films as *Scanners* (1981) and *The Fly* (1986) had terrified and nauseated viewers, decided to show us what he could do with twins in *Dead Ringers*.

Irons plays Beverly and Elliott Mantle, gynaecologists in a world-renowned fertility clinic whose love for one of their patients leads to their deaths by suicide. Based on the real-life horror story of New York doctors Stewart and Cyril Marcus,

the film covers the physicians' lives from their successful beginnings to their morbid end when their decomposing bodies were found in their Manhattan apartment half buried in garbage and drugs.

The latest twin presentation is *Twins*, a farcical romp about fraternal twins Julius and Vincent Benedict (Schwarzenegger and DeVito, respectively), which has taken in more than \$35 million at the box office. Julius is scientifically created from the sperm of six geniuses and thus endowed with the most perfect traits of mankind. The experiment misfires, however, when Julius' mother gives birth to a twin who carries all the genetic "garbage" of mankind.

One day Julius discovers he has a twin and sets out in search of his alter ego. Since there is no mistaking Schwarzenegger for DeVito, this is not a twin picture in the classic sense — more a one-joker rib tickler as 4-foot, 10-inch DeVito gazes up at 6-foot, 4-inch Schwarzenegger and introduces him proudly as, "My twin brother."

Cronenberg's film, on the other hand, is a deep, almost demonic look into the condition of twintship, a subject the director says has always fascinated him. "I've always wanted to do a picture about twins," he says. "But I did not want any part of the standard twin premise — the psychotic twin vs. the virtuous one or comedies in which the twins are exactly the same. I've never seen a movie treating twins as real people, with neither one being the embodiment of evil or innocence."

Irons as the identical-twin Mantles brothers tackled the acting challenge of his life. Without elaborate changes of makeup or hairstyle, he portrayed two different personalities: Beverly, an introverted scientific researcher and clinician, and Elliott, the smooth sophisticate who guides his brother through a successful medical career and hesitant relationships with women.

"I wanted a feeling of difference (between the brothers) without audiences being able to put their finger on what the difference was — and we've done that," says Irons. "It's the energy you give out that makes you different; your face changes, you stand differently, you speak in a slightly different way."

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Heston attacks politically motivated criticism

By Vernon Scott

HOLLYWOOD, (UPI) — Charlton Heston, with the possible exception of Jane Fonda or Ed Asner, is Hollywood's most ardent political activist, a position he believes has earned him biased critical reviews.

The Academy award-winning star of *Ben Hur* makes it clear, however, his campaigns for conservative candidates and issues have never cost him a job in the liberal movie and television community.

But he is equally convinced some critics took politically motivated potshots at him for his performance in *A Man for All Seasons*, a three-hour Turner cable network presentation of the 1960 Robert Bolt play.

Heston anticipated that many reviewers would compare his production concerning the conflict between Sir Thomas More and Henry VIII, with the 1966 movie version which won Oscars for best picture, best director (Fred Zinnemann) and for Paul Scofield as best actor.

He cast himself in the title role and chose Vanessa Redgrave, another ardent political activist, as More's wife. John Gielgud portrayed Cardinal Wolsey.

Concluded

Based on 40 or 50 reviews he read, Heston concluded that most were enthusiastic, a few were negative and a handful were outright prejudicial from a political standpoint.

"It is the fate of great plays to be remade," Heston said in a recent interview at his home above Beverly Hills.

"I was asked if I was worried about following Scofield and I said I'd followed Laurence Olivier, John Gielgud and Ralph Richardson in Shakespearean parts. That's what happens. Those plays are going to be done over and over again."

"Comparisons, of course, were made between our production and the original.



Charlton Heston: I am not Nixonian or Reaganesque

Vanessa has. At this minute she's playing to overwhelming notices on the London stage in *Orpheus Descending*, which has never succeeded before.

"Vanessa and I are perfectly comfortable in disagreement. We don't discuss politics. I suppose she is as far to the left as I am to the right. We both take our politics very seriously, but we don't go into that."

Still, Heston doesn't believe the politically oriented critics affected his performance.

"It was a success," he said. "The Turner people were pleased with it. It has been sold overseas and will be run again on the cable network this year. I'm not quarreling about that. The piece is one of the things I'm most proud of. In my career."

Heston tried to guess why some of the criticism wouldn't focus on his personal politics rather than his performance.

"I suppose they are angry because I disagree with them," he said. "The conservative position seems to be carrying the day on the world scene and they resent that."

"It irritates them, because I have a rather large forum and choose to express my opinions. I could keep my head down politically and stay out of trouble, but I shoot my mouth off."

"You do your best, you take your shot and you don't whine about the consequences. But I feel comfortable complaining about what I perceive as unfair comment and criticism for the wrong reasons of both my wife and Vanessa's."

Steiger adjusts to older roles

By Matthew Heller

MALIBU, California, (UPI) — Rod Steiger, star of such classic movies as *On the Waterfront*, is fighting fit at 63 after a string of lackluster films, major heart surgery and a long bout of depression.

Steiger, once described as one of Hollywood's most convincing character actors, says he is back in form after a period when "I didn't care very much about hanging around."

A fourth marriage and several new acting challenges, including a role as an irascible New York mayor in the newly released film *The January Man*, has helped revive his spirits.

"I've got to be upbeat," he said, looking relaxed as he sat on the deck of his new Malibu home. "I have a great wife and a daughter who I love. I think the only thing bothering me at the moment is I hate to get old. Anybody says, 'grow old gracefully,' I feel like hitting them with a chair."

Characters

A few years ago, following a 1976 heart operation, Steiger was as brooding as many of the characters he has played. The hero of classic films as *On the Waterfront*, *The Pawnbroker* and *In the Heat of the Night*, for which he won an Academy award in 1966, even doubted he could still act.

"That was part of the depression," he recalled. "I was terrified I wouldn't remember lines. I had in my mind ideas that I'd break down and run off the set, pass out because of fear."

The type of roles he played recently — his credits included *The Amityville Horror* and *Catch-22* — did not help his confidence and he continued to be plagued by the insecurity common to many Hollywood actors.

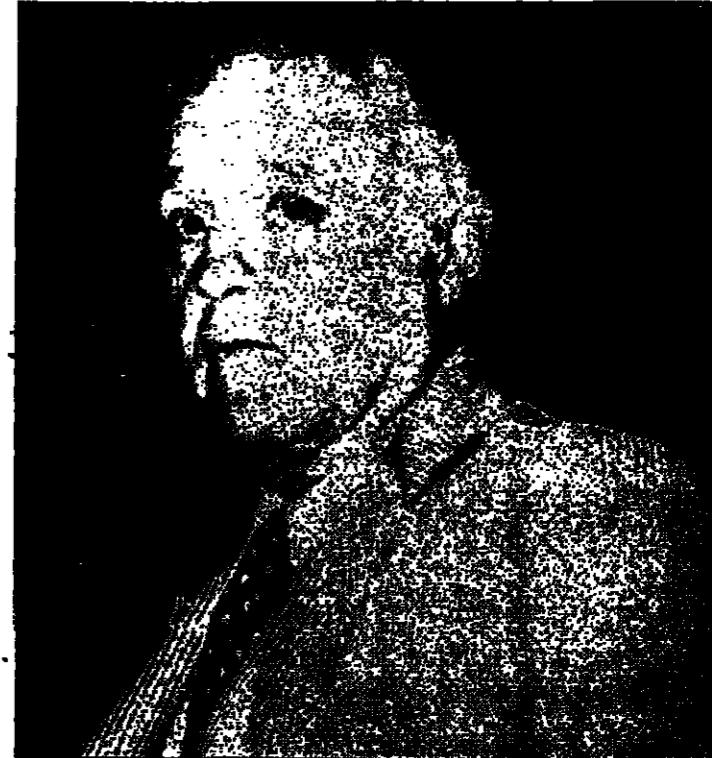
"I did some terrible things," Steiger, who has retained his imposing build and booming voice, said with a grimace.

Wondering

"My agent who I had at that time called me up and said, 'people are wondering about you. Are you dead? Are you alive?' And so I did some things that if I had been in better health I wouldn't have done."

Then came a telephone call from an old colleague, Norman Jewison, who directed Steiger in *In the Heat of the Night* and *FLST*, asking him to play Mayor Eamon Flynn in *The January Man*.

The film, which opened here



Rod Steiger: after a string of lackluster films he's back in form

thank you." That was the end of the conversation."

"My point is you can go on forever in a way. The fine actors are poets, mobile poets. They create their poetry through their soul, their voice, their body, their heart, their eyes, their gestures, etc. The mechanism may get old, but the sense of poetry never dies."

Upcoming

Steiger's brand of poetry will be on show in two upcoming releases. He has a cameo part as an eccentric judge in *Tennessee Waltz* and plays a Yugoslavian fisherman during World War II in *White Roses*.

The actor, also known for his portrayals of such real-life historical figures as Napoleon, Al Capone and W.C. Fields, is also hoping to do more film boggies.

Among his ideas for subjects are Ludwig van Beethoven in the last part of his life with his nephew and Ernest Hemingway during his final years.

These are hardly odes of joy — Beethoven was tortured by deafness and Hemingway committed suicide. But Steiger evokes a picture of contentment in his own life.

"I realize today when I sit out here in the sun on such a nice day with a nice house and the warmth of the world might be interested in you, you've got no complaints," he said.

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BUSINESS & FINANCE

China austerity programme spawns black market in cash

BEIJING, Feb 3, (Reuters): Sales of safes are booming in China as businessmen hold onto their cash to avoid government controls.

Businessmen are breeding guard dogs to protect homes filled with cash that permits them to trade and lend in a booming cash black market that grew out of an austerity programme instituted five months ago, the official economic information newspaper said today.

In September, China introduced tight curbs on credit, the issuance of cash and on how much cash enterprises were allowed to keep on their premises.

Rules

The newspaper said these rules had been widely ignored, with enterprises hoarding cash to avoid the controls and using false receipts to conceal their transactions. It said the boom in safes and guard dogs followed from the hoarding.

A concern in Jiangsu sent a salesman carrying 1.2 million yuan (\$325,000) in cash to southwest China to buy silkworm cocoons, another sent armed militia to escort its salesmen who were carrying tens of thousands of yuan to buy cotton.

One private businessman who was late in repaying a loan of \$3,000 (\$9,500) to a bank was found to have double that in cash in his house, the newspaper said.

Firms borrowed and lent the money among themselves, thwarting the government's attempt to control cash flow, it said.

UNICEF seeks \$11.5m to help Sudanese homeless

GENEVA, Feb 3, (Reuters): The United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) appealed today for \$11.5 million to help the millions of people made homeless by civil war and drought in southern Sudan.

"The situation of these people is desperate," said Robert Rogier, co-ordinator of UNICEF's emergency relief for the Sudan.

He told a news conference the money would be used to give food and medical aid to uprooted people living in bad conditions around Khartoum and in the Kordofan and Darfur regions to the south and west of the capital.

Mortality

"Mortality rates of children, particularly from measles, have been very high. In some villages that we had access to in the Kordofan region all the children under five years died of measles. If we could have vaccinated these children that could have been prevented," Rogier said.

He said about one million displaced people lived around Khartoum. A UNICEF spokeswoman said an estimated four-fifths of southern Sudan's six million population had fled their homes.

Top-level talks to co-ordinate efforts to support oil prices

CAIRO, Feb 3, (Reuters): Oil producers Egypt and Nigeria agreed in top-level talks in Cairo to co-ordinate efforts to support oil prices, a joint communiqué said today.

The statement, issued at the end of a three-day visit by Nigerian President Ibrahim Babangida, also condemned the dumping of toxic waste in Africa and called for an international Middle East peace conference.

Nigeria, member of the Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC), and non-OPEC Egypt produce about 1.5 and one million barrels of oil per day respectively.

Egypt keeps oil prices unchanged

CAIRO, Feb 3, (AP): Egypt decided today to keep oil export prices for the first half of February at Jan 16-31 levels, a senior Oil Ministry official said.

Hamad Ayoub, the ministry's foreign sales director, announced the decision after a meeting of the oil pricing committee.

"Prices for the period Feb 1-15 will be the same as those prevailing in the second half of last month," he said.

This meant that the top-grade Gulf of Suez blend remains at \$14.75 a barrel, Belayim at \$13.90 a barrel, Ras Badran at \$12.75 a barrel and Ras Ghareb at \$12.45 a barrel.

Despite plenty at home

Kuwait looks for oil and gas overseas

KUWAIT, Feb 3, (Reuters): Kuwait is searching for oil and gas in places as far flung as Australia and China despite sitting on enough crude to last 250 years.

The state-owned Kuwait Petroleum Corporation (KPC) has already joined the ranks of multinational oil giants by snapping up refineries and hundreds of petrol stations throughout Europe.

With world oil prices now staging a modest recovery, KPC's foreign exploration arm is boosting investment in oil and gas concessions from Australia's arid plains to the Gulf of Suez.

People always ask why we look for oil in places like China when we have so much here," says Paisal Al Kazmawi, chairman of the Kuwait Foreign Petroleum Exploration Com-

pany (KUFPEC).

"...it is purely another means of investing Kuwait's money in an area in which we have expertise," he said.

Other members of the Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC), such as Saudi Arabia, Venezuela and the United Arab Emirates, have also bought refineries and petrol stations abroad to secure retail outlets for their crude oil.

But Kuwait is the only OPEC state to have made upstream investments — in production and exploration — outside its borders, Kazmawi said.

Kuwait's own proven crude oil reserves, at 94.5 billion barrels, would last 250 years at current production levels of around one million barrels per day (BPD).

KPC, the world's 13th largest oil company, entered foreign

exploration when it bought California-based engineering firm Santa Fe International in 1981. Santa Fe now handles exploration in North America and the North Sea.

KUFPEC has stakes in nearly 30 concessions elsewhere, of which it operates about a third. Two — in Egypt and Australia — produce oil in commercial quantities.

Suspension

Kazmawi recently attended the inauguration of Egypt's Amal field in the Gulf of Suez, of which KUFPEC holds 73 per cent and France's Total 27 per cent. It began producing 7,000 barrels per day (BPD) last December and KPC is negotiating marketing rights to its share.

KUFPEC has stakes in 12 Australian concessions including the Harriet field which

produces 11,000 BPD.

Kazmawi says concessions in Indonesia, China and Congo will begin production in the 1990s.

KUFPEC looks at both high-risk countries like Sudan — where fighting forced the suspension of a drilling programme with Total in the rebel-hit south — and safer bets like Egypt and Indonesia, a fellow member of OPEC.

A joint venture with Chevron of the United States has developed the offshore Anoa field in the Amak concession in Indonesia which Kazmawi said would be producing up to 24,000 BPD by the end of 1990. Another Indonesian area, Bawean, is due to pump up to 18,000 BPD by mid-1991.

KUFPEC and Atlantic Richfield of the United States have also discovered a huge gas field in

the South China Sea.

With proven reserves of 2.5 trillion cubic feet, development will start soon and there is talk of building a liquefied natural gas plant on the island.

"We're trying to form a consortium with US, Japanese and Chinese firms to build an LNG plant for export," Kazmawi said.

In Congo, KUFPEC and Amoco Corporation have found 200 million to 300 million barrels in recoverable reserves of heavy crude oil in an offshore field and development is under study.

Kazmawi also said he expected drilling to begin this year in the Tajaib concession in Pakistan and the East Shabwa bloc in South Yemen. KUFPEC and partners were recently awarded new concessions at Ras Kanainas in Egypt's western desert and Sabah in Malaysia.

World Business Summary

World Bank approves \$148m loan for Pakistan

WASHINGTON, Feb 3, (UPI): The World Bank announced yesterday the approval of \$150 million in loans in support of Pakistan's efforts to promote private investments in medium- and large-scale industries. The bank approved a \$148 million loan for the Pakistani manufacturing sector, and the International Development Association, its concessionary lending affiliate, approved a \$2 million credit. The project will channel funds to private industries through four commercial banks and three development banks, which will lend the money for investments in the manufacturing sector, the World Bank said. The project will also accelerate the growth of the stock market through policy changes and improve the delivery of credit for financial industries. Pakistan will use the IDA credit to train participating banks' personnel, purchase computers, and hire the consultants needed to help get the project off the ground. Technical assistance funds also will be available to the regulatory agencies of the capital market, the bank said. The expected increase in private investment will result in the creation of 200,000 jobs, the multilateral organisation said.

Dubai metal production up

DUBAI, Feb 3, (OPECNA): The metal production of the Dubai Aluminum Company (Dubal) increased from 154,832 tonnes in 1987 to 163,445 tonnes in 1988, while sales of premium products increased to 97.5 per cent from 89 per cent during the same period.

According to a company release on Wednesday, "the new records set during the year in metal production, sales of premium products and in all supporting activities made 1988 a record year for Dubai since production began in 1979." It pointed out that additional capacity in the east house had enabled the company for the first time to produce more than 100,000 tonnes of high-quality extrusion billets. Exports to 21 countries totalled 161,265 tonnes, including small quantities to Belgium and the Philippines, the company said. Dubai's largest market was Japan with 103,751 tonnes (64.3 per cent of total sales), followed by the United States 18,610 tonnes (11.5 per cent) and Taiwan 11,799 tonnes (7.3 per cent). "Total water production was 8.82 billion gallons and the average supply to Dubai was 23.40 million gallons per day," the company noted.

Japan's jobless rate drops

TOKYO, Feb 3, (Reuters): Japanese unemployment in December, announced today, dropped to 2.3 per cent, the lowest in six years, as Japan's booming industries competed to hire more workers. But the competition among companies to secure more new employees is not driving wages upward, and inflation is not now a worry, economists said. "That low unemployment rate shows the economy is growing fairly rapidly, more than expected," said Hidehiro Iwaki, economist at NRIINCC Company, the research arm of Nomura Securities, the world's biggest broker. The December unemployment rate, adjusted for seasonal factors, was down from 2.4 per cent the previous month. The government also reported that the jobs-to-applicants ratio rose to 1.15 in December, the highest in more than 14 years and up from 1.11 in November. That means there were 115 job offers in December for every 100 applicants. "We are a little bit concerned about the tightness of the labour market over the last couple years, in view of maintaining low inflation," said a central bank official, who declined to be identified.



President George Bush points skyward as he greets Japanese Prime Minister Takeshita on his arrival at the White House on Thursday.

His aides in Tokyo tried to come up with a list of things he and Bush had in common. Little emerged except for the fact that both were born in 1924.

The prime minister said he and Bush had agreed to co-ordinate closely on policies toward the Soviet Union, the Middle East and Latin America.

"We will work together to strengthen the free-trading system, and agree to co-operate closely for the progress of the Uruguay round (tariff reduction) negotiations," he said.

US officials briefing reporters on the talks said Bush wanted to make it easier to resolve trade and other differences by quickly establishing a close bond with Takeshita similar to the first-name relationship between former Presidents Ronald Reagan and ex-Prime Minister Yasuhiro Nakasone.

That might prove difficult as Takeshita is exceedingly reserved, Japan watchers say.

Meanwhile, Japan is doing more than the United States to ease trade friction between the two nations, says Mike Mansfield, former US Senate Democratic leader and ambassador to Tokyo for a record 11 years.

"Japan has done well, my country must do better" in taking the economic measures needed to correct the multi-billion dollar trade imbalance between the two countries now running in favour of Japan, Mansfield said in a blunt speech at the Japanese embassy.

Mansfield, who retired last month at the age of 85, spoke after visiting Takeshita presented him the first Japanese decoration made in the name of the new emperor, Akihito, in recognition of service to friendship between the two countries.

CENTRAL BANK OF KUWAIT

ANNOUNCEMENT

For Subscription in Issue No. (39) for Treasury Bills Authorised by Decree Law No. (50) of 1987

CENTRAL BANK OF KUWAIT, on behalf of the Ministry of Finance of the State of Kuwait, hereby announces the offering of TREASURY BEARER BILLS in Kuwaiti Dinar for SUBSCRIPTION in compliance with the following Rules and Regulations:

1. AMOUNT OF ISSUE:

The Amount of this Issue is KD 100 million distributed over THREE Denominations as follows:

KD 50 000, KD 250 000, KD 500 000

2. ISSUE DATE : Wednesday 8 / 2 / 1989

3. DUE DATE : Wednesday 10 / 5 / 1989

4. OFFERING PERIOD:

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5. ALLOTMENT: Wednesday 10 / 2 / 1989

6. DELIVERY OF BILLS:

After one week following the date of submitting the application.

7. The Provisions of this Issue shall be subject to the Rules and Conditions stipulated in the Announcement for Subscription in Issue No. (1) for Treasury Bills, published in the Local Newspapers of Saturday, November 21, 1987 and in the Official Gazette (Kuwait Al-Youm) No.1746 issued Sunday, November 22, 1987.

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Dubai '89 gives a great push to commerce and trade

Exhibitors from around the world praise air show

DUBAI, Feb 3. (Agencies): An aerobatics display by a pair of US Navy F-18 Hornets marked the closing yesterday of the five-day Dubai '89 International Aerospace Exhibition, one of the largest air shows ever staged in the Middle East.

UAE Defence Minister Sheikh Mohammed Bin Rashid cut the ceremonial ribbon to declare the event open.

More than 200 exhibitors from around the world displayed aircraft and aviation technology during the show.

Combat aircraft were flown in by the United States, Britain, France and Italy. China presented a display of weapons that included tanks and artillery.

The Hornets were from the US Constellation, an aircraft carrier currently on station in the North Arabian Sea.

Features

Officials of Airbus Industrie, The European consortium, announced the signing of a contract for three A300-600 R jetliners by the Dubai-based Emirates airline.

Egypt's national carrier Egyptair said earlier that it had agreed to purchase seven Airbus A320s, with options for three more.

SHEIKH Mohammed, accompanied by top UAE officials and leaders of delegations from the GCC countries, went on to the tarmac with dozens of television and newspaper cameramen crowding around him.

"I have visited many high-profile air shows in Europe, but Dubai '89 has a very high standard," he said after meeting the pilots of the civilian and military aircraft.

At each military jet and

civilian aircraft, top representatives of the companies which manufacture them briefed Sheikh Mohammed on key features of the aircraft.

When Sheikh Mohammed was taken to the Mirage jets; for instance, Serge Dassault, the man at Dassault, the manufacturer of Mirage and Alpha fighter jets, himself was there.

The Dubai '89 bears little comparison with previous exhibitions held either in Dubai or anywhere in the Middle East. As both professionals and visiting dignitaries pointed out, the inclusion of military aircraft and flying displays added shine to a show that otherwise would have been dryly industry-oriented.

That sentiment was strongly voiced by exhibitors of equipment used in different aspects of civil aviation.

A German delegate said: "The flying displays make a lot of difference. At shows where no such attractions are available, deals may be struck but excitement and colourful atmosphere would not be generated."

Also impressive were the military freighter the BAe146 and the Pilatus PC-6 and PC-9 which gave a stirring performance in control and flexibility. Of course, the Airbus 320 that has been so much in the news recently, was a major attraction and it completed its routine impeccably, proving its noise abatement ability and its promise as an option on the middle hand market.

The French made Alpha jet, a waspish, sharp, subsonic advanced light attack and training aircraft has for 15 years found

Push

And the chief of the Abu Dhabi Chamber of Commerce and Industry, Saeed Al Oteiba, pointed out: "An exhibition like Dubai '89 gives commerce and trade a great push all over the UAE. It should be organised regularly. What Dubai government has done is very commendable."

Mohammed Saeed Al Mulla, Minister of Communications, said: "We want more exhibitions like this held for the benefit of the country and the entire region."

The Dubai '89 aerospace exhibition, termed by aviation experts as a veritable showcase for the most sophisticated avionic equipment in the world today, adds yet another feather to the cap of Dubai Civil Aviation authorities and joint hosts, Emirates airline.

With exhibitors from around the world pouring praise on Dubai '89 — the region's first



UAE Defence Minister Sheikh Mohammed Bin Rashid cuts the ceremonial ribbon to officially open Dubai '89, the Middle East's biggest-ever show that brought together the latest in civilian and military aircraft industry.

Confident

And as representatives of more than 200 companies from 20 countries headed away from Dubai International Airport, many were confident of winning major orders as a result of contacts made during the show, which also attracted defence delegations from Oman, Saudi Arabia and Morocco.

The leader of the Australian delegation at Dubai '89, Walter

Hucker, said interest shown in his country's advanced equipment — including radar and surveillance products — could lead to sales worth more than \$3 billion. "This was far beyond our expectations," said Hucker.

"The Dubai exhibition now ranks as one of the world's major aviation showcases."

Commitment

That tribute was echoed by Jean Pierson, President of Airbus Industrie, while Sir Raymond Lygo, Managing Director and Chief Executive of another of the major international exhibitors,

British Aerospace, said: "The show is an outstanding success."

Emphasising a firm commitment to staging Dubai '91, Virginia Kern, Managing Director of show organisers Fairs and Exhibitions Ltd, said: "Now that the event is firmly established on a truly international level, we are confident of attracting many more exhibitors and delegates in two years' time."

She added that the 1991 show is likely to see a leading aerobatic display team taking part in the daily flying displays, while a special day for the public is also planned.



The crowd on opening day visiting the static display of aircraft at Dubai '89, the Middle East's unique aviation exhibition.

Speculators bet that US interest rates would certainly not come down, even if they did not go higher.

Trying to tame the dollar, because of the inflationary threat around the globe, the US Federal Reserve Board led the central banks of West Germany, France, Switzerland, Belgium, Italy and Austria in selling the US currency to bring it back down.

Intervention

Since the new year the dollar has gained about five per cent in value on a powerful rally, largely because of the relatively high US interest rates.

"The Fed is not going to ease its interest rate policy as a result of these figures," said a London bank economist after the job statistics from Washington.

So, at least for now, it was up to the central banks and their open market intervention against the dollar to try to stop it rising to problematic levels.

About an hour after the release of the jobs data they had got it back down to around 1.8770 marks and 129.25 yen (from

129.80) but speculative buying could not entirely be stopped and New York dealers reported that the Fed piled back into the market with a second round of selling.

Finance ministers from the Group of Seven industrial nations were meanwhile meeting in Washington for talks arranged some weeks ago, with the West Germans particularly worried about the dollar inflation risk.

But European currency dealers thought the G-7 — the United States, Japan, West Germany, Britain, France, Italy and Canada — might find it hard to say anything very effective.

"G-7 will delay any comments until the trading day in Europe is finished," said Peter Geis, treasurer at Irving Trust in Frankfurt. "But they could have quite an impact in New York."

Money has been pouring out of gold and other investments into dollars this year. Gold closed at a two-year low in London yesterday because of the strength of the dollar and today closed at \$388.75 an ounce.

In New York, US Treasury bond prices fell, while bill rates rose after the employment report reinforced expectations US interest rates will have to rise further, dealers said.

The benchmark 30-year bond fell to 101-12/32 from 101-29/32 to yield 8.87 per cent against 8.82 per cent.

Wall Street stocks opened lower with the Dow Jones industrial average down four points at 2,330.

Weaker US stocks pressured prices in London which had soared earlier. The FTSE index of 100 key shares remained sharply up 25.5 points at 2,068.9 points after the US opening but was off a peak of 2,078.

Elsewhere in Europe, stocks were higher in France and West Germany. The Swiss market was steady, Italian shares were weak.

Earlier in Tokyo, shares ended the week at a new closing high in heavy business which concentrated on the construction sector. The Nikkei share index rose 187.48 points or 0.60 per cent to a new record close of 31,685.78.

The dollar closed in Frankfurt at 1.8815 marks, up from yesterday's 1.8680 but down from the day's highs of 1.8875.

Frankfurt dealers said the central banks' intervention had been only partly successful and the dollar was headed higher, although forecasts were marked by caution over what, if anything, the G-7 leaders would say after their meeting.

"get-acquainted" session, with both US Treasury Secretary Nicholas Brady and his Japanese counterpart, Tatsuo Murayama, relatively new in their jobs.

Brady came under pressure yesterday from Europe and Japan to show he was determined to cut the US budget deficit.

The dollar surged against the West German mark, triggering a bout of intervention by European central banks and the US Federal Reserve that appeared to halt an advance to the 1.90-mark ceiling traders believe the G-7 has set.

Finance ministers had billed their Washington meeting as a

not to slide further.

Beregovoy told reporters new ideas would include proposals floated last year by French President Francois Mitterrand and former Japanese Finance Minister Kiichi Miyazawa.

The United States has reacted coolly in the past to both, but pressure has been mounting for a fresh initiative as Argentina, Brazil and Venezuela face new economic crises.

The finance leaders' talks were likely to be overshadowed by another attempt at world currency markets to drive the dollar higher following signs that the US economy is continuing to

solutions. French Finance Minister Pierre Beregovoy said before joining all-day talks at the US Treasury.

The seven richest industrial democracies — the United States, Japan, West Germany, France, Britain, Canada and Italy — are seeking to build on a 1985 debt strategy pioneered by James Baker, then the US Treasury secretary.

That bought commercial banks time, but there is now an emerging consensus among the G-7 nations that the strategy must be improved if living conditions in debtor nations, especially in Latin America, are

to improve.

"I hope 1989 will see the advent of effective, original debt

Made in Japan tag worries Japanese firms manufacturing abroad

TOKYO, Feb 3. (Reuter): Japanese firms have shifted much of their manufacturing abroad to avoid national trade barriers but now they worry that "Made in Japan" labels might still be pasted on those foreign-made products.

"They are just making up a rule to suit themselves," he said.

An EEC regulation expected to come into force this month will also require microchip makers to carry out an essential part of the production of semiconductor circuits in EEC-based plants if the chips are to be considered EEC-made.

Japanese brands signify quality to many consumers worldwide, but for some countries such goods represent unwelcome competition — even if they are actually made locally.

Define

"It's a question of how you define what is really a homegrown product" and what is basically an import," said Tony Moyer, securities analyst at SBCI Securities (Asia).

"There is a feeling that yes, jobs are created and capital is invested but that the receiving country's technology is not improved and may be impoverished," he said.

In late January an EEC committee ruled that photocopiers assembled by the US subsidiary of Ricoh Co Ltd did not qualify as US-made and should be subject to punitive duties applied to photocopiers imported from Japan.

An EEC spokesman in Tokyo said the ruling stemmed from the EEC view that Japanese firms have more than 70 percent local content and should be seen as European.

In the United States, Japanese firms are facing calls that their locally-produced cars be included in Japan's voluntary restrictions on exports to the United States.

Japan said in January it would retain its quota of 2.3 million cars for the year, starting April. Japanese car companies are expected to have the capacity to make that many or more cars in the United States by the early 1990s.

WORLD STOCK ROUNDUP

SYDNEY, Feb 3. (Reuter): Domestic selling virtually wiped out early gains, with some brokers blaming nervousness before this weekend's G-7 meeting. The All Ordinaries index was up 0.8 at 1,511.3.

TOKYO: Prices ended the week on a new closing high after heavy trading on the back of buying of construction stocks. The yen's trend against the dollar also helped the Nikkei index rise 187.48 to 31,685.78.

HONG KONG: The market surged to its third post-crash high of the week as local buying overcame institutional selling. The Hang Seng index gained 46.42 to 3,105.96.

ZURICH: Swiss share prices closed generally steady in fairly calm trading. The All-Share Swiss performance index was hardly moved at 959.2 points compared with 957.5 at the previous close.

NEW YORK: Wall Street stocks were higher in late morning trade although blue chips were off highs. The Dow was up seven at 2,340 after rising to 2,344.

BOMBAY: Share prices

recovered on heavy speculative buying fuelled by rumours some Indian companies may conclude lucrative deals with a visiting French business mission. In textiles, Reliance Industries Ltd rose 7.5 rupees to 137.5.

FRANKFURT: Takeover rumours scurried round the Frankfurt Bourse, pushing selected stocks sharply higher and lifting the whole market. The Real-Time 30-share Dax index ended up 6.80 points or 0.5 per cent at 1,326.36.

ZURICH: Swiss share prices closed generally steady in fairly calm trading. The All-Share Swiss performance index was hardly moved at 959.2 points compared with 957.5 at the previous close.

NEW YORK: Wall Street stocks were higher in late morning trade although blue chips were off highs. The Dow was up seven at 2,340 after rising to 2,344.

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MUSIC

ARAB TIMES, SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 4, 1989

A new image for Sheena Easton

A thoroughly modern girl

By Alan Jackson

BRITISH showbusiness is awash with stars who have traded their rock appeal for the comfy world of variety shows, musicals and TV ads.

Was Cliff Richard really once seen as a threat to the morals of the nation's youth? Were the young Cilla Black or David Essex ever taken seriously as pop singers, or Toyah Wilcox and Adam Ant considered even remotely outrageous? Actually, yes.

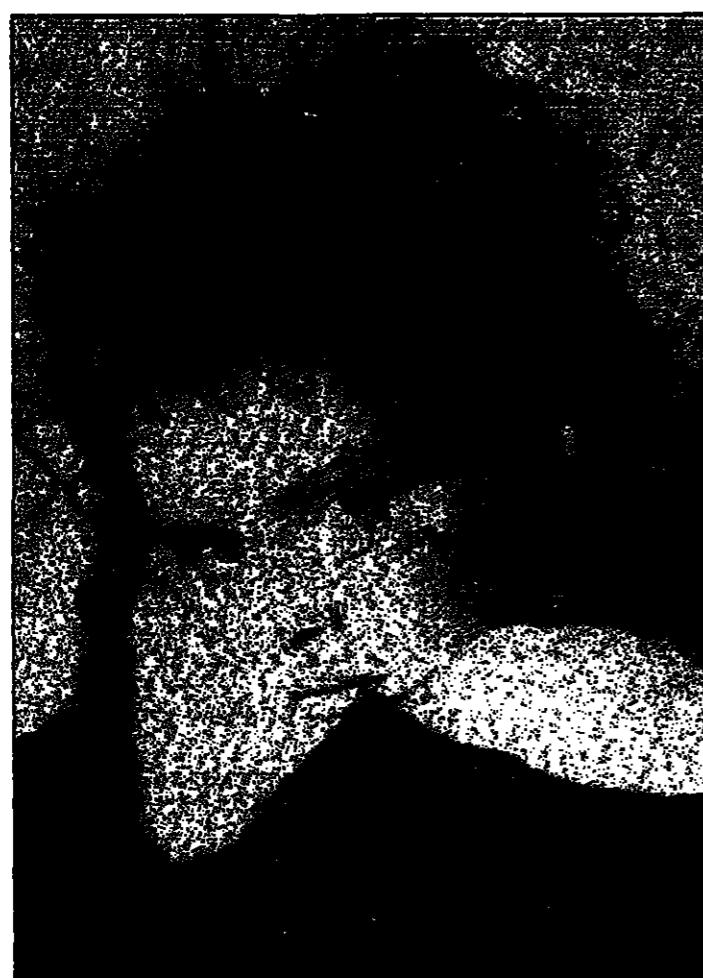
The instinct for survival in a fickle business is a strong one. And although such prudence runs contrary to the rock 'n' roll ethic, very few artists swim against the tide, sacrificing the lucrative pastures of the adult-oriented market in a bid for genuine pop credibility.

Gilt by association seems the key to success for the few who do. It took pairings with Morrissey and the Pet Shop Boys respectively to restore Sandie Shaw and Dusty Springfield to the charts, while the Tom Jones-Art of Noise collaboration gained extra impact through involving a cover of the Prince hit "Kiss".

And it is also Prince who has helped Sheena Easton pull off one of the most radical image reversals imaginable. Thrust to instant fame in 1980 by the BBC documentary "The Big Time", she seemed the archetypal malleable pop star, destined for the middle of the musical road when her brief run of British success dried up.

Instead, she moved to the United States, where she won 1981's Grammy for Best New Artist, and set about attracting a younger dancefloor following through work with top black producers.

"I never wanted to go on stage in a long sequinned gown and do an hour's worth of ballads," she told me in Los Angeles recently, as she prepared for a brief promotional trip to Britain. "You get offered exorbitant amounts of money to do the kind of show where you go into the audience and say 'Hey, you guys are beautiful. Where are you from? Is this your honeymoon?' It just wasn't what I wanted for myself musically."



Sheena Easton: re-cast

The key factor in her personal reinvention was a first contact with Prince five years ago. Hearing she liked his work and was looking for material, he wrote the song "Sugar Walls" for her. A Top Ten hit in America in 1984, its innuendo was denounced as "pornographic" by moral crusader Tipper Gore, hence securing Easton a credibility rating no PR strategist could have dreamed of, and one totally out of sync with the suburban secretary-chic image created by "9 to 5" her debut hit.

Since then she and Prince have dueted on "U Got The Look" and recently began writing songs together. Their latest collaborations are "101" and "Cool Love", two startling tracks he has written and produced for Easton's almost uniformly exuberant album "The Lover In

Me," due out in March. The current rash of posters across London promoting her new single, the title track from the album, suggests that she is totally committed to burying her earlier incarnation.

They show the singer "posing my ass off, quite frankly—really giving it plenty" in black lingerie. It's a strident, sexy song and I wouldn't be doing my job right if I came across as anything other than feisty and hot-blooded," she maintains. "I'm not in the least embarrassed or ashamed of it."

Those who find such pragmatism distressing from one who sang of the joys of housewife subservience in "9 to 5" should have taken note of the refrain to Sheena Easton's very first single: "She is free to be what she wants to be. All she wants to be is a Modern Girl."

Record review:

A milder version of Blondie

By David Sinclair

THERE is a fatal flaw at the heart of *Once More into the Bleach*, a mildly eccentric double-album collection of old Blondie and Debbie Harry material, much of which has been subject to dramatic remixing and restructuring in a modern-sounding post-House vein.

Although Blondie was a band which enjoyed an impressive measure of support among the club and dancefloor constituency, the group's music was



Debbie Harry: re-mixed for the dance floor

nevertheless about as pure an expression of the three-minute pop song ethos as has yet been heard. Thus, to turn "Denis", "Heart of Glass", "Call Me", "Rapture" and "The Tide is High" into rambling, extended 12" mixes, their melodies groaning under the weight of repetitive percussion overlays, stuttering voice samples and burping electronic effects is to betray the very essence of those once lean, seductive songs.

The men responsible for this sequence of high-class travesties

are seasoned remix producers including Dancin' Danny D, Shep Pettibone and Coldcut. But in "Housing-up" such material, they have injected a crushing element of long-winded slackness into verses that were once paradigms of neat, spry elegance. The gleaming hooks of the choruses are invariably deferred until the trance-like quality which distinguishes a dancefloor mix is firmly established, and the once-sharp lines of the melodies have become irredeemably softened and blurred.

Those songs which escape the fate of emasculation by elongation are strictly second division in any case, and include material such as the original 12" version of Harry's only solo hit, "French Kissin' in the USA" and, for no obvious good reason, a French language version of "Sunday Sunday".

The album demonstrates, albeit unwittingly, the different requirements in musical mood and timescale that separate the dancefloor *habitué* from the rest of us.

Blues music carries on

By Andrew Stern

CHICAGO, (Reuters): Sugar Blue jams the harmonica against his lips, straining to hit the gut-wrenching run of notes that mirror his Blues player's soul.

Backed by his band on the cramped stage of a nightclub packed with a mostly white audience, Sugar Blue—born Sam Whitling 38 years ago in Harlem—is carrying on a tradition that began in the deep south of his black forefathers.

Widely regarded as the roots of rock and roll, the Blues are described as black folk music, an aural history of black Americans from their slave quarters in the south to their migration to the ghettos of industrial cities in the north.

As sung by Muddy Waters, blind Lemon Jefferson, Robert Johnson, and now, Sugar Blue, the Blues is a simple musical format, consisting of three basic chords.

"It is the simplest music to duplicate, and the most difficult art in which to create," Sugar Blue says. "Because you've only got three (chord) changes ... the only thing you've got going for you is your free-flowing sense of how to structure ideas."

"If you play 36 choruses, you

better have something to say."

Chicago, destination of hundreds of thousands of Mississippi-born blacks earlier this century, has since become the adopted home of modern-day performers like Sugar Blue, Son Seals, Koko Taylor and dozens of others.

Sugar Blue learned at the feet of master harmonica player "Big Walter" Horton, a contemporary of legendary figures such as John Lee "Sonny Boy" Williamson, Howlin Wolf and Muddy Waters.

"They didn't have just the music to show you," Blue says of the old-time players, a few of whom in their 80s are still playing clubs in the city.

"They were the only people who maintained the knowledge of what was going on, how people felt. They were the troubadours."

Big Walter, who died in 1981, spent much of his performing life in clubs that paid waitresses more than musicians.

After his mentor died, Sugar Blue left Chicago for France, a haven for many unappreciated American black artists.

But the image of Horton edging down nightclub aisles in a paper-mache devil's head, beg-

ging, haunted him and he later returned to continue his musical education.

While tourists now frequent the numerous Blues clubs here, anxious to hear the "Chicago Blues" played and sung by Sugar Blue and other players, the current atmosphere cannot begin to match the scene earlier in this century.

From the 1920s to the 1950s, Blues blared out of Chicago's southside tenements and nightclubs.

The Blues artists were sought out and recorded, and often paid paltry sums, their songs sometimes stolen and never copyrighted. Many succumbed to drink or worse.

Now only a few lucky artists get recorded and Chicago-based Alligator Records is one of the few companies willing to commit the Blues to vinyl.

In a ramshackle office littered with posters and cassettes, Alligator founder Bruce Iglauer recalled the first time he heard the Blues live, when he listened to Fred McDowell in Mississippi in 1966.

"It was the most emotional, direct, raw music I had ever heard. It was the antithesis of slickness," he said.

Sheriff captures top spot in USA

NEW YORK: "When I'm With You" by Sheriff jumped into the number one among best selling single pop records in the United States. The hit disc was in fourth spot a week ago.

Last week's top single, Don't Rush Me by Taylor Dayne, topped to 10th position on the Cash Box magazine chart.

Paula Abdul's Straight Up lived up to its title, leaping three notches from fifth to second. Def Leppard's Armageddon It slipped from second to third.

Two Hearts by Phil Collins topped from third place completely out of the top 10 list.

New to the top 10 list was Wild Thing by Tone Loc, up from 13th to 7th. Holding On by Steve Winwood, up from 11th to 9th.

Top Ten US

The top 10 pop singles, as rated by Cash Box magazine, with last week's positions in brackets:

1. (4) When I'm With You — Sheriff (Capitol).

2. (5) Straight Up — Paula Abdul (Virgin).

3. (2) Armageddon It — Def Leppard (Mercury-Polygram).

4. (6) Born To Be My Baby — Bon Jovi (Mercury-Polygram).

5. (7) The Way You Love Me — Karyn White (Warner Brothers).

6. (8) When The Children Cry — White Lion (Atlantic).

7. (13) Wild Thing — Tone Loc (Delicious Vinyl).

8. (10) All This Time — Tiffany (MCA).

9. (11) Holding On — Steve Winwood (Virgin).

10. (1) Don't Rush Me — Taylor Dayne (Arista).

The top 10 country-western singles, as rated by Cash Box magazine, with last week's positions in brackets:

1. (3) Song Of The South — Alabama (RCA).

2. (6) What I Say — Earl Thomas Conley (RCA).

3. (4) It's Always Gonna Be, Someday — Holly Dunn (MTM).

4. (10) Baby I Love Your Way — Will to Power (Epic).

4. (7) Burnin' A Hole In My Heart — Skip Ewing (MCA).

5. (9) I Sing Dixie — Dwight Yoakam (Warner Brothers-Reprise).

6. (10) Big Wheels In The Moonlight — Dan Seals (Capitol).

7. (1) Deeper Than The Holler — Randy Travis (Warner Brothers).

8. (12) Life As We Knew It — Kathy Mattea (Mercury).

9. (2) All The Reasons Why — Highway 101 (Warner Brothers).

10. (14) She Reminded Me Of You — Mickey Gilley (Airborne ABS).

London: Gene Pitney's re-release of Something's Gotten A Hold Of My Heart with British singer Marc Almond topped the British pop singles chart for the second week in a row.

The Living Years by Mike and the Mechanics stayed in second spot, followed by You Got It by the late Roy Orbison.

Top Ten UK

This week's top 10 singles, as listed by Our Price Music Ltd., the national music retail chain, with last week's placings in parentheses:

1. (1) Something's Gotten A Hold Of My Heart — Marc Almond and Gene Pitney (Parlophone).

2. (2) The Living Years — Mike and the Mechanics (WEA).

3. (5) You Got It — Roy Orbison (Virgin).

4. (6) Cuddly Toy — Roachford (CBS).

5. (7) She Drives Me Crazy — Fine Young Cannibals (London).

6. (8) Love Train — Holly Johnson (MCA).

7. (9) Buffalo Stance — Neneh Cherry (Circa).

8. (10) That's The Way Love Is — Ten City (Atlantic).

9. (3) Especially For You — Kylie Minogue and Jason Donovan (PWL).

10. (10) Baby I Love Your Way — Will to Power (Epic).

TODAY'S CROSSWORD

GOREN BRIDGE

BY CHARLES GOREN AND OMAR SHARIF

WEEKLY BRIDGE QUIZ

Q.1—Neither vulnerable, as South you hold:

♦J10762 ♦K83 ♦A3 ♦762

Your partner opens the bidding with one heart. What do you respond?

Q.2—As South, vulnerable, you hold:

♦J98 ♦K873 ♦Q654 ♦A9

The bidding has proceeded:

South West North East

Pass 1 ♠ 1 ♣ 1 NT

What action do you take?

Q.3—Neither vulnerable, as South you hold:

♦K1072 ♦Void ♦A7 ♦K10964

The bidding has proceeded:

North East South West

1 ♠ 1 ♣ ?

What is your opening bid?

Q.4—As South, vulnerable, you hold:

♦AKJ10984 ♦K ♦A1092 ♦KS

Partner opens the bidding with one diamond. What do you respond?

Q.5—Neither vulnerable, as South you hold:

♦AKJ10987 ♦K9 ♦6 ♦Q92

The bidding has proceeded:

West North East South

Pass Pass Pass ?

What is your opening bid?

Q.6—As South, vulnerable, you hold:

♦AQ1093 ♦Q107642 ♦Void ♦A7

Partner opens the bidding with one diamond. What do you respond?

YOUR STARS

Aries (March 20 - April 18)

Venus' more favourable influence will help you to deal with a family matter. You should make sure you do not quarrel with a good friend of yours. Avoid overstretching yourself financially. Be polite.

Taurus (April 19 - May 19)

You will be in good spirits and will be able to do a good deal of what you set out to do. You should do all you can to avoid playing with fire. Do not allow family problems to accumulate. Be magnanimous.

Gemini (May 20 - June 20)

Venus

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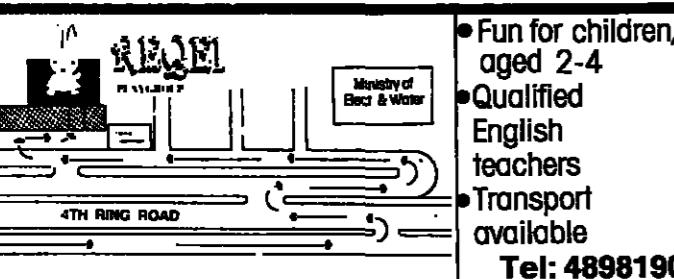
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SPORTS

Rain hits first day of Test in New Zealand

DUNEDIN, New Zealand, Feb 3. (Reuters): Play was rained out without a ball being bowled on the first day of the first Pakistan-New Zealand cricket Test at the Carisbrook Ground in Dunedin today.

Light rain fell throughout the day and umpires Steve Dunne and Steve Woodward abandoned play shortly before the scheduled tea interval.

The Otago province, of which Dunedin is the main town, had been experiencing its worst drought this century but more rain is forecast for tomorrow.

Earlier in the morning Pakistani manager Intikhab Alam named the Pakistan 12 which included 16-year-old pace bowler Aaqib Javed.

If Aaqib is included in the final 11 he will be the second youngest player to play Test cricket after Mushtaq Mohammad, also of Pakistan.

Provided

Mushtaq was 15 years and 124 days old when he made his debut against the West Indies in 1958. Aaqib was 16 years and 182 days old today. If the teenager plays, Pakistan will have provided the five youngest players to have played Test cricket.

Teams: Pakistan: Rizwan-uz-Zaman, Shoaib Mohammed, Aamer Malik, Javed Miandad, Salim Malik; Musaddass Nazar, Imran Khan (captain), Salim Yousuf, Abdul Qadir, Aaqib Javed, Salim Jaffer, Rameez Raja.

New Zealand: John Wright (captain), Robert Vance, Andrew Jones, Martin Crowe, Dipak Patel, Jeff Crowe, Richard Hadlee, Ian Smith, John Bracewell, Ian Smith, Ewen Chatfield, Willie Watson.

Knicks win 16th straight home game

NEW YORK, Feb 3. (AP): The New York Knicks again performed their magic act at Madison Square Garden, where even the NBA's top teams tend to disappear.

"We were so pumped up, we were flying," Gerald Wilkins said after scoring 21 points as the Knicks beat the Cleveland Cavaliers 125-109 last night.

The Knicks led the entire way in the meeting of Eastern Conference Division leaders. They won their 16th straight home game and are 19-1 this season at the Garden.

The Central Division-leading Cavaliers are 32-10, the best record in the League. But they never got going against New York, 29-16 and in first place in the Atlantic Division.

"We're a good team and they're a good team. And when you play a team that good, you've got to play hard. They just played a lot harder than we did," Cleveland's Ron Sharper said.

In other games: Chicago beat Sacramento 109-98, Seattle downed Miami 100-93, Denver defeated Atlanta 112-103 and Golden State stopped New Jersey 127-113.

Trent Tucker broke his own team record for 3-point baskets, helping the Knicks win. His 70th 3-pointer this season came during a 13-2 burst that closed the first half and put New York ahead 65-50.

Patrick Ewing added 21 points and Charles Oakley had 16 points and 13 rebounds for the Knicks who have won two of three games against Cleveland.

Mike Sanders scored 30 points and Harper had 23 for the Cavaliers.

Bulls 108, Kings 98

Michael Jordan scored 40 points and rallied Chicago over Sacramento.

Jordan, held to nine points in the first half, scored 15 during a 22-7 spurt in the third quarter as the Bulls overcame a 55-46 deficit.

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JONES HAMMERS WEST INDIES FOR UNBEATEN 131

Australia take charge of fifth Test

ADELAIDE, Feb 3. (Reuters): Dean Jones, with his fourth Test century, put on 208 with captain Allan Border for the fourth wicket today to help Australia take a firm grip of the fifth and final Test against West Indies.

At the close of the opening day Australia were 283 for three with Jones unbeaten on 131 and Border 61 not out.

Jones left out for the first two Tests, was in commanding form from his first ball against a ragged West Indies attack which conceded 28 runs in three hours.

Reduce

He steadied the innings after Curly Ambrose had removed David Boon and Geoff Marsh in quick succession shortly before lunch to reduce the Australians, 3-1 down in the series, to 73 for three.

Jones, particularly strong square of the wicket, hit 12 fours in a chanceless 20-minute innings on a good batting strip.

In contrast, Border, who made 75 in his side's fourth Test victory, only rarely pierced the field.



Dean Jones

who hit 149 in Sydney, scored 34 including five boundaries.

Eleven runs later Marsh, on 21, also fell victim to Ambrose, giving the lanky paceman his

24th wicket of the series. He edged a rising delivery straight to wicketkeeper Jeff Dujon.

With the innings tottering, Border faced a familiar scene on his arrival at the wicket to join Jones.

But Jones was already hitting the ball sweetly around the picturesque Adelaide ground and he proceeded to take advantage of a strange lack of fire from the West Indies attack.

Ambrose and Patterson both contributed 10 no-balls, although many more no-balls were scored off by the batsmen and did not enter the extra column.

Jones reached his half century off 84 balls. His second 50 took just 67 balls as he repeatedly hit with power and grace through the West Indies cordon.

Since hitting 102 against Sri Lanka in the final Test of last season Jones has had a miserable year, averaging just 7.3 in the three-Test series in Pakistan.

Replaced as captain of Victoria by Simon O'Donnell, Jones rebuilt his confidence during the

one-day World Series Cup and was reinstated for the Third Test in Melbourne.

Border will not count his 36th Test 50 among his best. He failed to take advantage of Viv Richards' long spell of gentle off-spin, constantly striking the ball directly at the fielders while Jones picked the gaps with ease.

Scoreboard

AUSTRALIA first innings:

G. Marsh c Dujon, b Ambrose	21
M. Taylor run out	3
D. Boon c Richardson b Ambrose	34
D. Jones not out	131
A. Border not out	61
Extras (lb 5 nb 28)	33
Total (for three wickets)	283
Fall of wickets: 1-7 2-54 3-75	
To bat: S. Waugh, I. Healy, T. May, M. Hughes, M. Whitney, T. Holmes.	
Bowling: Marshall 11-1-26-0 (7ab); Patterson 17-1-68-0 (10ab); Ambrose 19-3-66-2 (10ab); Walsh 15-2-57-0 (1ab); Hooper 3-0-14-0; Richardson 1-1-7-0	
West Indies — V. Richards (captain), G. Greenidge, D. Haynes, C. Hooper, R. Richardson, G. Logie, J. Dujon, M. Marshall, C. Ambrose, C. Walsh, P. Patterson.	

"We feel we have the right team to exploit this style of play ... if you have players with the vision to see the benefit of the counter-attack that can be lethal."

The key to tomorrow's match could lie in the respective performances of the two backrows.

Scotland captain Finlay Calder spearheaded a lively and thoroughly effective trio against Wales while England have possibly the fastest forward in openside flanker Andy Robinson.

The Scotland pack has been badly affected by the defection yesterday of tighthead prop Iain Milne because of an injured left ankle.

Coach Ian McGeechan said: "Iain has been the cornerstone of our pack and his absence means losing a lot of valuable experience."

Milne's replacement, London Scottish player Paul Burnell, said: "I'm sorry for Iain but it's great to be winning my first cap."

Teams:

England — Jon Webb; Rory Underwood, Will Carling (captain), Simon Halliday, Chris Oti; Rob Andrew, Dewi Morris, Dean Richards, Mike Teague, Wade Dooley, Paul Ackford, Andy Robinson, Paul Rendall, Brian Moore, Jeff Probyn.

Scotland — Peter Dods; Keith Robertson, Scott Hastings, Sean Lineen, Iwan Tukalo; Craig Chalmers, Gary Armstrong, Derek White, John Jeffrey, Chris Gray, Damian Cronin, Finlay Calder (captain), David Sole, Kenny Milne, Paul Burnell.

Wales take on Ireland

of misdirected passes.

Wales have plenty of talent in their back division and Evans and Cambridge University's Mike Hall should give the Irish defence plenty of worrying moments if they get an adequate supply of ball.

Teams:

Wales — Paul Thorburn (captain); Ieuan Evans, John Devereux, Nigel Davies, Mike Hall; Bleddy Bowden, Robert Jones; Mark Jones, Roland Phillips, Kevin Moseley, Phil Davies, David Bryant, Mike Griffiths, Ian Watkins, Laurence Delaney.

Ireland — Fergus Dunleavy, Michael Kiernan, David Irwin, Brendan Mullin, Keith Crossan; Paul Dean, Fergus Ahern; Noel Mannion, Pat O'Hara, Donal Lenihan, Willie Anderson, Philip Matthews (captain), Tom Clancy, Steve Smith, Jimmy McCoy.

Trimmer Tyson has new trainer

bout here on Feb 25.

"He makes me more comfortable. We grew up together," said Tyson.

D'Amato, who died several years ago, took Tyson and Bright into his home when they had problems as teenagers. Tyson was a juvenile delinquent and Bright was orphaned after his father, mother and brother died not long apart.

After Tyson's workout, Bright said Tyson still needed some work but could "beat Bruno right now."

Tyson sparred eight often desultory rounds on Wednesday.

Honeyghan puts title at stake

LAS VEGAS, Feb 3. (Reuters): Heavyweight boxing champion Mike Tyson revealed a trimmer body and a new trainer on Wednesday in a training session for his title fight this month against Briton Frank Bruno.

Tyson, who split from longtime trainer Kevin Rooney a few months ago, is being worked by Jay Bright, a boyhood friend and fellow disciple of Tyson mentor Cus D'Amato.

Tyson said Bright, an aspiring actor who never fought as a professional, will be in his corner when the champion defends his title in a scheduled 12-round

bout here on Feb 25.

"He makes me more comfortable. We grew up together," said Tyson.

D'Amato, who died several years ago, took Tyson and Bright into his home when they had problems as teenagers. Tyson was a juvenile delinquent and Bright was orphaned after his father, mother and brother died not long apart.

After Tyson's workout, Bright said Tyson still needed some work but could "beat Bruno right now."

Tyson sparred eight often desultory rounds on Wednesday.

Karpov triumphs

SEATTLE, Feb 3. (AP): Iceland's Johann Hjartarson beat the Soviet Union's Anatoly Karpov after the 32nd move of the third game of the World Chess Championship

quarterfinals, giving Karpov a nearly unbeatable lead in the six-game match.

With the victory, Karpov leads with 2.5 points to 0.5 for Hjartarson.

A loss by Hjartarson in the next game would bring the match to an end, said chessmaster John Donaldson of Seattle. He said that for Hjartarson to keep the match alive, he would have to score 1.5 points in the next two games.

Brooks had five birdies and just one bogey for his share of the lead.

"It wasn't a perfect round but I hit it close a few times to make some birdies and never was in serious trouble," Brooks said.

Sauers posted seven birdies and three bogeys, playing in the late afternoon when the wind had picked up considerably.

"The course might have been two shots harder in the afternoon," he said. Pate and Brooks both played in the morning.

Defending champion Chip Beck was three strokes off the pace after a one-under-par 70.

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SPORTS

SPORTS BRIEFS

Golden Boot

MONT CARLO, Feb 3, (Reuter): Turkish striker Tanju Colak was presented with the annual Golden Boot trophy marking the top European goalscorer of the year at a special gala ceremony on Wednesday.

World Cup

ROME, Feb 3, (Reuter): Soccer fans have bought more than one quarter of the tickets available in Italy for the 1990 World Cup in the first two days of sales, organisers said yesterday.

Cup qualifier

LISBON, Feb 3, (Reuter): Portugal yesterday showed faith in the side who beat Greece in a recent friendly by naming a virtually unchanged squad for a vital World Cup soccer qualifier against Belgium on Feb 15.

1998 finals

ZURICH, Feb 3, (Reuter): France bid officially on Wednesday to host the 1998 World Cup soccer finals when French Soccer Federation chief Jean Fournet-Fayard handed the application to FIFA general secretary Sepp Blatter.

Italian soccer

ROME, Feb 3, (Reuter): Results of first-leg matches in the semifinals of the Italian Cup on Wednesday:

Atlanta 2 Sampdoria 2
Pisa 0 Napoli 2

W.German boxer

BERLIN, Feb 3, (AP): Graciano Rocchigiani of West Germany will defend his International Boxing Federation super middleweight title against French challenger Pierre-Franck Winterstein on April 28 in West Berlin. Rocchigiani's manager Wilfried Sauerland said yesterday.

Chess match

ANTWERP, Belgium, Feb 3, (AP): Hungarian grandmaster Lajos Portisch and Jan Timman of the Netherlands agreed on a draw after 104 moves in the resumption of the adjourned first game of their World Chess Championship candidates quarterfinal yesterday.

Carl Lewis

LOS ANGELES, Feb 3, (AP): Six-time Olympic gold medalist Carl Lewis claimed on Wednesday that steroid use by women in track and field has been on the rise and questioned the ethics of American track and field performers.

Jeff Fenech

SYDNEY, Australia, Feb 3, (AP): World Boxing Council featherweight boxing champion Jeff Fenech of Australia will defend his title against Mexican Marcos Villasana at the National Tennis Centre in Melbourne on April 1, promoter Bill Morley confirmed today.

New car

MODENA, Italy, Feb 3, (Reuter): Ferrari on Wednesday unveiled the new normally-aspirated Formula One car they hope will bring them their first drivers' world championship for 10 years.

Record entry

PARIS, Feb 3, (Reuter): A record 40 drivers have entered the 1989 Formula One world championship, the International Motor Sport Federation said on Wednesday.

Fendick triumphs

AUCKLAND, New Zealand, Feb 3, (AP): Top-seeded Patty Fendick of the United States trounced Swede Maria Lindstrom 6-2, 6-0 today to advance to the semifinals of the \$75,000 Nutri-metics International women's tennis tournament.

Randy Barnes

ST ALBANS, West Virginia, Feb 3, (AP): Randy Barnes says his recent world-record indoor toss in the shot put came at a time when he's in less than peak condition. "I cannot wait to get a few weeks off from competition so I can train," Barnes, an Olympic silver medalist, said.

Dutch fans

AMSTERDAM, Feb 3, (Reuter): Dutch football fans plan to boycott a new identity pass scheme aimed at curbing hooliganism at matches, a spokesman for the Dutch Soccer Supporters Federation said yesterday.

Bridge tourney

A NEW bridge tournament, sponsored by West Minister System 17, will start at the Regency Hotel from Feb 19.

The West Minister Bridge Tournament will be held every Sunday and will last four months. However, only the best nine scores will count towards the final standings.

Prizes will be awarded to the first 10 players. The first game is on Sunday, Feb 19, at 8.00 pm.

WAZZAN FINISHES IN SECOND PLACE

Falah wins Kuwait local rally

By Gail Seery

EID FALAH Al Farzan and Sadeq Ashkanani took their Zayani-sponsored Range Rover to a three-minute and 34-second victory over Tareq Al Wazzan in yesterday's Kuwait local rally. Wazzan and his usual navigator Khaled Khalifa were driving a Marlboro Opel Manta 400, which not only lacked the advantage of a 4wd, but also posed a series of problems for the team.

While Falah and Ashkanani encountered no problems and were driving with a new and more powerful engine, Wazzan and Khalifa encountered first two punctures, and then a broken drive shaft, which left them a full minute behind Falah at the end of the first leg of the rally. However, true disaster struck when the car stopped at the entry to parcerne, and eventually had to be pushed started. The pair were late into parcerne, and incurred a three-minute penalty which knocked them back into an impossible position.

Third place was taken by Ali Al Birami and Mohammed Al Zaid in the Daihatsu Charade, though it should have been Ahmed Al Helai and Fahad Al Rashed who took the position; they rolled their Rothmans Toyota Corolla on the last stage. Neither man was hurt, but the car was badly damaged, proving yet again how safe a sport desert rallying actually is.

Ahmed Al Mulla took a competent fourth place, in the Nissan 240RS, and as usual, Nasser Al Mousalem was right behind him in his Nissan Silvia. Once again this pair effectively kept Tareq Al Alyan out of the top five, and he and his new co-driver Isabel Sperando came home in sixth place.

Kuwait's only ladies' team, Dominique Bondi and Sophie Skouratko, sponsored by Lacoste, drove to a splendid eighth place in a comparatively low-powered Lada Niva. This result shows that they have a great deal of potential as a rally team.

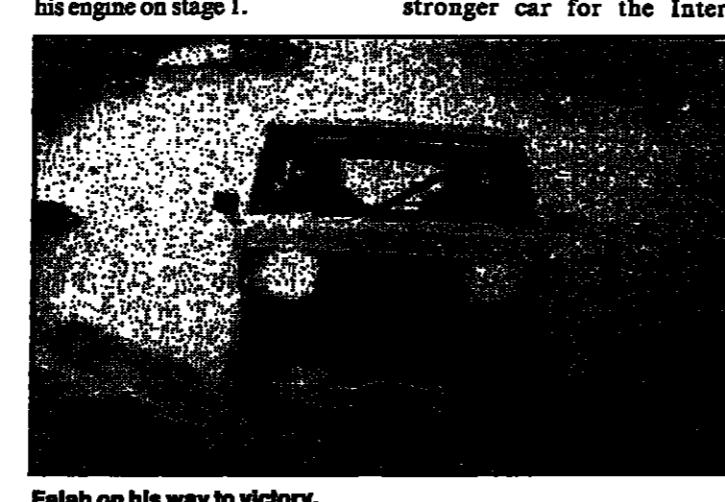
Hossam Al Sayafe was continually told that his Range Rover was not fit to continue the rally; he was determined that he was



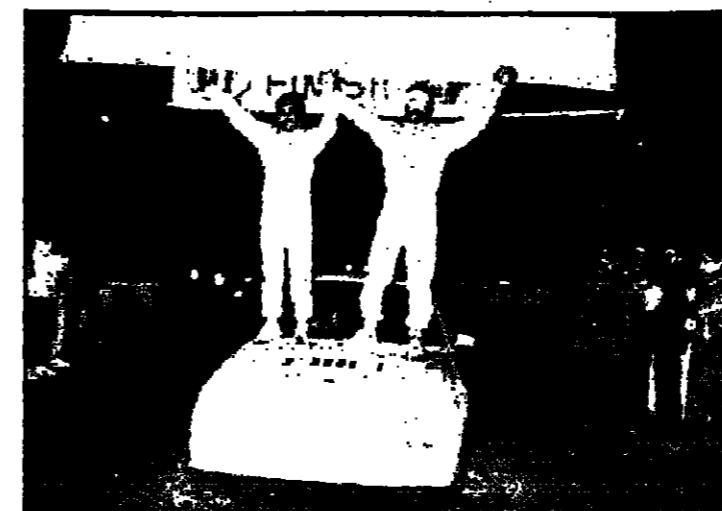
Falah (right) and Ashkanani: easy win

going to finish, "even if I have to hold the engine in my hand while I drive," and earned himself ninth place — not a position he is likely to be content with under normal circumstances, but one which showed an unusual degree of commitment and determination, in the conditions of yesterday's rally. When Sayafe was not in the car driving, he was underneath working on it.

Realistic
The rally had been expected to be a tough fight between a number of cars, now that Mohammed Al Husseini was back in his Toyota Celica, and former Kuwait champion Ahmed Al Zafiri was back in a realistic car with Winston as a sponsor. Sadly, Husseini encountered gear problems, and Zafiri blew his engine on stage 1.



Falah on his way to victory.



Wazzan (right) and Khalifa: faced problems

Unfortunately this type of disaster is very much a part of rallying, but at least Zafiri has a new car on its way for the International, and sooner or later his bad luck must end. It really is tragic that this accomplished driver should continually be kept away from top positions by car problems.

"It was a good rally," Falah told the Arab Times. "The car was fine — the times we set prove that. Once Tareq had his time penalty I knew I could relax a little."

"This time the car was very fast, and Eid drove very well," said Sadeq Ashkanani. "We are leading the drivers', and co-drivers' championships at the moment, but there are still two rallies to go. We are preparing a stronger car for the International."

With their position.

Ahmed Al Nasser took seventh place in his first outing in the Mitsubishi Starion. "We had problems with the shock absorbers," he said, adding that he was testing the group A car ready for the International rally in March. "It was a good rally with excellent stages," he continued. "I'd like to thank the KT Club for their hard work in organising it."

Mohammed Jarar and Fadi Mansur came in tenth with a lot of problems. In SS7 the rear axle was damaged in the mid-stage and they thought they would have to withdraw. However, they managed to struggle on, and the Toyota Corolla collapsed on the finish line of the final stage. The team struggled to make it back to the hotel, and should be pleased

with their position.



Birami (right) and Zaid: finished 3rd



Mulla (right) and Mousa: fourth



Alyan: couldn't get into the top five

(Photos by Emad Al Bouni)

UAE edge Kuwait in Cup qualifier

SHARJAH, UAE, Feb 3, (Agencies): Kuwait's chances of qualifying for the next round of the World Cup qualifiers practically vanished when the visitors suffered a 1-0 defeat against the United Arab Emirates.

Kuwait, who beat UAE 3-2 in their home match, were never in the game and seemed to play without a plan from the start.

The only goal of the match came in the second half when UAE's Adel Al Tulyani gave the Kuwaiti goalkeeper no chance to make a save.

Although UAE have four points against Kuwait's six, they have a game against Pakistan in hand. UAE also has a better goal average.

Kuwait still has a chance to qualify — if Pakistan beat UAE or hold them to a draw. But the former Iraqi youth star

scored his third goal in the 67th minute. In the 80th minute he shot over the heads of the defensive wall and into the net off the crossbar.

All attempts by the Jordanians to reduce the deficit were repulsed to give a final scoreline of 4-0.

Radhi began his international career in 1982 at the age of 18 when Iraq beat Jordan 7-1. He won a place in the triumphant Asian Games team that year.

In 1983 he led the Iraqi youth team to victory in the Palestine Cup in Morocco, slamming two hat-tricks in the process.

And in Doha, Qatar, two goals by Mahmoud Soufi steered Qatar to a 3-0 (1-0) win today against visiting Oman and boosted their hopes of reaching the 1990 World Cup finals.

The tactically superior Qatar

chances of Pakistan achieving this result are practically nil, especially after their 5-0 thrashing by UAE in the first leg.

In Baghdad, four goals from Iraqi striker Ahmed Radhi sent Jordan tumbling to defeat today in their World Cup qualifying game for West Asia Group One.

Jordan, outplayed throughout the game, were lucky not to concede at least two more goals. Keeper Milad Abbas saved a shot from Natiq Hashem in the 15th minute and Ghannim Urieb hit the bar eight minutes later.

Grasp

Radhi's first goal came in the 26th minute when Abbas failed to grasp the ball cleanly. The keeper seemed not to notice his second goal in the 43rd minute until it was safely in the net.

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Al Ali defeats Rashid

AMMAN, Jordan, Feb 3, (AP): Jordanian No.1 Hani Al Ali took a straight-set victory over Kuwait's Khalid Rashid today to save a 1-1 tie in the first day of Davis Cup tennis play.

The 6-4, 6-2, 7-6 (7-2) victory by the 24-year-old former University of Florida player followed a 6-2, 7-5, 6-1 triumph for Kuwaiti captain Khalid Ashkanani, 23, over Jordanian No.2 Iyad Shehab, 23.

The winner of the first-round match in Asia-Oceania zone group 2 is due to play Pakistan in April. One of the 12 teams in the group will advance to Group 1 play next year.

Surprise

In Vienna, Horst Skoff swept away ex-Wimbledon champion Pat Cash of Australia 7-6 (7-1) 7-5, 6-3 to give Austria a surprise 1-0 lead in their Davis Cup world group first round tie today.

Cash's first serve let him down badly and he served 12 double faults.

"This is the best game of my life. A win against a Wimbledon champion is really something," Skoff, 20, said. "As I went into a 4-1 lead in the third set I knew I had it."

In Manama, Bahrain's No. 1 Esam Abdul Al downed Syrian Samer Mourad Ben Hassoun in three sets today to level the singles 1-1 on the opening day of the

Court confirms indefinite bail for Sidhu

NEW DELHI, Feb 3, (Reuter): A court has confirmed indefinite bail for Navjot Singh Sidhu and was to consider today his application to tour the West Indies with the Indian cricket squad.

The 24-year-old Sidhu, accused of beating to death a motorist after a road accident, has been restricted from travelling outside his Punjab state after he was charged with culpable homicide.

But the incident did not stop the national selectors from including him in a group of 22 probables from which the tour party will be picked.

Sidhu's lawyer, Charan Dev Verma, told reporters after Wednesday's hearing: "I'm hopeful Navjot will get permission to go with the team."

His good behaviour in the past and the standing of his father, a former member of Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi's Congress Party and a former advocate general of Punjab, would ensure that he went on the tour, said Brahm Mohindra, a member of the state's assembly.

Brazil beat Uruguay

SAO PAULO, Brazil, Feb 3, (AP): Brazil yesterday defeated Uruguay 4-2 to win the Pele Cup tournament in the final game of the two-week event.

Brazil's first three goals were scored by Adao in the 6th, 45th and 49th minutes. The fourth Brazilian goal was scored by Rivelino in the 75th minute. Uruguay's Siviero scored his team's first goal in the 70th minute and Cabrera scored the second Uruguayan goal in the 85th minute.

More than 17,000 spectators went to the Caninde stadium to watch the game.

Brazil ended the tournament with 11 points after winning five games, tying one and losing none. Uruguay ended with seven points, having won three, tied one and lost two.

At the start of the first half the Brazilian team played an aggressive game constantly gaining control of the ball and taking it to its adversary's side.

Mechelen crush PSV in Super Cup

MECHELEN, Belgium, Feb 3, (Reuter): Belgian underdogs Mechelen overwhelmed Dutch giants PSV Eindhoven 3-0 in the first leg of the European Super Cup on Wednesday.

Dutch international striker John Bosman opened the scoring for the European Cup winners when he fired home a cross from Piet den Boer, Mechelen's second Dutch striker from close range in the 17th minute.

PSV goalkeeper Patrick Lode-

said before the match that PSV possessed more individual talent and were in a class of their own. His words proved to be ill-founded because his side dominated for most of the match.